

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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CHERNYSHEV ON U.S. PREPARATIONS TO TORPEDO ABM TREATY

LD101758 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 10 TASS -- Follows commentary by Vladimir Chernyshev, TASS military news analyst:

As a spokesman for the U.S. Defense Department said, the Pentagon's council for military purchases is prepared to sanction the transfer of the whole or a part of the SDI program to the state of "demonstration and appraisal." Thus the U.S. military-industrial complex is continuing its attempts at laying the groundwork for the speediest official endorsement of the so-called early deployment of the SDI's first stage. Meanwhile, judging by the special report sent by the Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger in May this year to the U.S. President, the experiments planned for the next few years under the "Star Wars" program are in conflict not only with the real meaning of the ABM Treaty, but even its distorted representation by the U.S. Administration, which as found its expression in the so-called "broad interpretation" of the treaty.

All this underscores the irresponsible attitude of some circles in the USA to international security. Since now, as was pointed out at the Berlin meeting of the Warsaw Treaty member states, an opportunity has appeared to carry out a whole number of practical steps in the field of nuclear disarmament in order to stop humanity's slipping down to a nuclear catastrophe. Among such steps could be an agreement on a radical reduction of strategic offensive weapons with a simultaneous strengthening of the regime of the ABM Treaty.

Yet this prospect does not suit the book of the U.S. military-industrial complex. By its current moves it actually leads things to guaranteeing the continuation of the "Star Wars" program irrespective of the results of further research; to "stake out" the outer space Klondike, so that the SDI could not be "broken" by the future U.S. Administrations; to put up a cut in the strategic nuclear arsenals; to achieve as soon as possible the positions of strategic superiority, by building a "shield", albeit it may have lots of holes in it, in addition to its first-strike nuclear potential.

This means that those who are found of "outer space adventures" do not wish to face the realities of the nuclear space age, which clearly demonstrate that nobody's security can be ensured through military methods. Trying to resolve the problems of international relations using the old methods, on the basis of the way of thinking and actions, which shaped for centuries, means deceiving not only world public, but also their own selves. Under these conditions the only possible way that would ensure the preservation of human civilization is the one that would make it possible to reverse the arms race on earth and to prevent in in outer space.

U.S. BLAMED FOR LACK OF PROGRESS AT GENEVA

LD111751 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] A TASS observer says the Geneva talks on nuclear arms have been making no headway through the fault of the United States. Simultaneously, the United States has been trying to accuse the Soviet Union of this. Yesterday, a State Department spokesman said the Soviet partners were unwilling to conduct serious negotiations. The TASS observer recalls that it's the Soviet Union who has suggested a double zero option on medium-range and shorter-range missiles in Europe. The idea has been welcomed by West Europeans.

The United States was compelled to accept it too but now the United States is insisting on the retention of American nuclear warheads on shorter-range missiles earlier transferred to Federal Germany. The United States explains this by the fact that weaponry of a third party is not subject to Soviet-American negotiations.

However, the observer notes, Washington is well aware that it's American nuclear warheads that are at issue and a third party has nothing to do with this since Federal Germany does not have nuclear weapons. Some circles in the West wish the Soviet Union would have zero and the United States would keep a formidable nuclear arsenal. Such a position is due to the fact that influential militaristic groups in the United States are interested in the arms race.

This, the TASS observer sums up, hinders progress at the Geneva talks.

Further Commentary

LD112223 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1005 GMT 11 Jul 87

[By TASS political observer Sergey Kulik]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Jul (TASS) -- The more real, visible and tangible the possibility of accords on nuclear weapons becomes as a result of the Soviet Union's constructive initiatives, the more obstacles and difficulties are invented by the U.S. side to hamper this. They are stalemating the talks on some of the most important problems for the destiny of civilization.

Washington does not have and cannot have any arguments to justify such a position -- we'll give it the name it deserves: an anti-human position. For this reason the U.S. side systematically endeavors to blame the USSR for the fact that the Geneva talks are marking time. Even at the present time U.S. State Department Spokesman Redman, addressing journalists in Washington on Friday, has stated: "The Soviet Union is moving away from what we consider to be a constructive or positive approach to certain difficult problems." Redman even found it possible to speak of a certain reluctance on the part of the Soviet interlocutors to "participate seriously and constructively in their proceedings."

This is said after the Soviet Union has put forward the idea of the double zero in Europe for medium-range and operational and tactical missiles! This idea was approved by the Western Europeans, and the United States found itself forced to consent to it too. But now they are taking evasive action: they are insisting on the retention of U.S. nuclear warheads for the operational and tactical missiles that they gave to the FRG.

They even try to justify such a "position" by contending that the weapons of a "third party" cannot be subject to discussion at the bilateral Soviet-U.S. talks. But no one knows better than Washington that it is a matter of U.S. warheads, that the "third party" has nothing to do with it, because the FRG does not possess any nuclear weapons.

A strange opinion, to say the least, is being expressed on the banks of the Rhine, too, with regard to this question: "The FRG considers that the Pershing-1A missiles are not subject to the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva." In other words, certain circles in the West are conducting matters so that the zero should be on the side of the Soviet Union, and quite a substantial nuclear arsenal should remain on the side of the United States.

In its attempts to hinder progress on disarmament, the U.S. side does not shrink, at times, from appearing in the eyes of the world public in a perfectly ludicrous light. Washington's present stance on the Soviet proposal for a 50 percent reduction of strategic offensive arms is certainly ridiculous. It is a long-established principle in Soviet-U.S. agreements that the warheads on missiles are counted by the number with which a missile of a given type has been tested. But now the U.S. side has proposed a new and totally arbitrary way of counting. Its use offers the possibility of counting far more warheads on Soviet missiles than they actually have, while for the warheads on the U.S. missiles, an appreciably smaller number is given than the real one.

The reasons for such "new absurdities" in the U.S. position are very old. They are the interest that the influential military groups have in the arms race and, in consequence, the lack of any constructive concept on the part of the NATO ruling circles of how to build East-West relations if confrontation is renounced. That is why it is difficult not to agree with the frank admission made in Brussels on Friday by (Keel), the permanent U.S. representative at NATO headquarters: "The United States," he said, "has not the slightest desire or interest in eliminating all its nuclear weapons in Europe, at least in the near future".

PROGRAM DISCUSSES RESULTS OF DISARMAMENT FORUM

LD111543 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1155 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Studio discussion program introduced by commentator Yuriy Rostov, with Rowny, special assistant to the U.S. President on arms control; Admiral Eberle, director of the Royal Institute of International Relations; Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Bessmertnikh, USSR deputy foreign minister; and Nikolay Fedorovich Chervov, colonel general and head of the Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union; Rostov identified by caption; Rowny and Eberle remarks in English fading into Russian translation; video shows discussion participants in a studio; date and place not specified -- recorded]

[Text] [Rostov] "After Reykjavik: Planning For The Nineties" was the title of an international forum of disarmament specialists held in our country, in Dagomys. I present a discussion program on the results of the forum.

Taking part in our discussion is Mr Rowny, special assistant to the U.S. President on arms control. On the British side we have Admiral Eberle, who is the director of the Royal Institute of International Relations. The Soviet side is represented by Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Bessmertnikh, USSR deputy foreign minister, and Nikolay Fedorovich Chervov, colonel general and head of the Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union.

Twenty-five countries were represented at the meeting in Dagomys. Does that mean there were 25 approaches to the problems of security? Or did certain views and opinions predominate? I think we'll let our guests speak first, so I'll call on you, Mr Rowny.

[Rowny] First, I think the fact that the meeting was attended by representatives of 25 countries reflects the interests of the problems discussed here. The problems of security are of enormous importance to all of us, and we've got to find common approaches to them. I think arms control is important for the security of both the United States and the Soviet Union. It is also important for the security of all other countries. There are four main problems the United States wanted the meeting to discuss: bilateral agreements, regional crises, arms control, and human rights.

Bringing these questions together is not linkage; it is simply that moving in this direction creates the necessary conditions for accords on arms control. I was very glad that many of these present here -- everyone, perhaps -- understood that a 50 percent reduction of the strategic arms of the Soviet Union and the United States would be a very important step. The experts also agreed on the need to reduce conventional, chemical, and biological weapons.

[Eberle] We did not reach an unanimous opinion on what ought to be the ultimate aim of arms reduction, or on how safe a world without nuclear weapons would be. But we did discuss these matters in detail. I think we at least understood each other's views. Disagreements also emerged on the question of how, and how fast, we should move toward reducing nuclear and conventional arms. In this area, too, I think we've come to understand better the position of our opponents. This is very important, since mutual understanding gives us a chance of making real progress.

[Bessmertnykh] Among the positions most often mentioned during the meeting I would name the need for new thinking -- the need for a fresh interpretation of the problems of security, how they are to be understood -- these are, if you like, the conceptual aspects of the discussion. Interesting approaches were also made to the questions of nuclear limitation, nuclear disarmament. But I think the main thing is that virtually all the experts believe the need for nuclear disarmament, or at least the need to reduce nuclear weapons, is fundamental. This referred first of all, and most of all, to the European theater, though there were also some interesting statements that disarmament is a global problem, and that this is a problem that needs to be discussed and tackled in various regions of the world no less vigorously than in Europe.

[Chervov] There is no doubt that everyone supported the proposal to eliminate the medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in Europe, the double zero option. Most were for this. As for the 50 percent reduction, it would ostensibly appear that there is much that is similar here; however, there are fundamental divergences in the approaches of the Soviet and U.S. sides to the concrete solution of this problem of the 50 percent reduction.

[Rostov] Eight months have passed since the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik. How do the Soviet, U.S. and British representatives currently evaluate the long-term results and outcome of this Soviet-U.S. meeting?

[Bessmertnykh] Maybe Nikolay Fedorovich should speak first.

[Chervov] The view in the USSR is that Reykjavik marked a point of departure, the consequences of which are long-term. It is necessary to proceed from this point of departure, to strive for long overdue solutions to problems of nuclear and space arms. But influential circles in the United States do not accept the Reykjavik results. As far as a number of questions are concerned, they are dragging us backward to the pre-Reykjavik positions. The USSR's proposal to eliminate nuclear arms completely, supported by President Reagan in Reykjavik, currently fails to receive support from influential forces in the United States and NATO countries. This makes one doubt the sincerity and soundness of the U.S. and NATO proposals. Apparently the process of fully comprehending Reykjavik is proceeding slowly and with difficulty. It is obvious that not everyone has yet succeeded in understanding the opportunities opened up by Reykjavik. This has a negative effect on the talks in Geneva, particularly, on the problems of strategic offensive arms and space.

At these talks the United States is steering things thusly: That the ABM Treaty should in fact cease to be in force after 7 years; that is, after 1994. The U.S. Administration's statement on not going beyond the terms of reference of the ABM Treaty is merely a formality, since what is being envisaged -- and the Americans demand this of us at the talks -- is that they should be permitted to carry out tests on offensive space weapons.

Apart from this, the U.S. side at the talks on nuclear and space arms is avoiding concrete discussion of space weapons activities -- those permitted and those banned by the ABM Treaty -- and is proposing and striving to see that the existing connection between defensive and strategic offensive arms is broken. But objectively, this is impossible. If the U.S. side deploys arms in space, there will be no reduction whatever of strategic offensive arms.

[Rowny] I think Gen Chervov is distorting the true state of affairs, or at least is distorting the U.S. position. We recognize that Reykjavik was a very important event. However, as was stressed by Secretary of State Shultz during his visit to Moscow, our leaders tried in Reykjavik to achieve a process that was too rapid. No agreement was concluded in Reykjavik. But during the talks in Moscow, the sides decided to move toward a 50 percent reduction in strategic arms.

In Geneva we presented our proposals on this. We would like the USSR to reply to them. But the USSR has stated that it thought it necessary to link progress in this sphere with space weapons, with a question on which no agreement was reached in Reykjavik. I would like to stress that SDI does not involve offensive armaments; it is, in effect, a shield. We are prepared to deploy [razvernut] this shield and, at the same time, reduce offensive armaments. I think this is a realistic enough proposal. And it is not true to say that the United States is refusing a treaty on SDI.

The USSR has ABM systems, antisatellite systems, and other similar systems just as we have. One must have a shield as well as a sword. We now have the technology to create a defense that takes account of the existing ABM agreement. In 7 years it will be clear whether we have the opportunity to create an even more effective defensive system. That is when the deployment question will arise. There is no need to counterpose offensive and defensive armaments. One can develop both offensive and defensive armaments.

[Chervov] But you are obscuring the most important question, Mr Rowny. You, the United States, are demanding that for 7 years, it should carry out tests on space strike armaments. Is that so or not? If that is so, and it really is so, then the ABM in practice loses its force and becomes an empty piece of paper. Therefore, I cannot take your statement seriously.

[Rowny] That is an incorrect interpretation of the actions and intentions of the United States. In developing a defensive program, we are doing exactly what the USSR has done. It is a defensive program, a shield. There are no offensive weapons here. We are not violating the ABM Treaty. All of this is being done within the framework of the treaty. If the defensive system is effective and if it works, very well. If the system does not work, we will cooperate with the USSR and seek ways of stabilizing the situation.

We do not intend to abandon the ABM Treaty but this treaty must be reviewed so that it is in accord with current demands. In the past 12 years a number of the provisions of the ABM Treaty which said that we should reduce offensive armaments have not been realized.

Therefore, one should not say that we want to destroy the treaty. We will follow its principles. But I think it is essential to adopt amendments to the treaty. We hope that the USSR will in time agree to that.

[Chervov] Allow me to ask you, anyway: Do you intend in this 7-year period to test space strike weapons or do you intend to do this?

[Rowny] No, we do not intend to test space strike weapons. We intend, if our technological possibilities allow us to do this, to test a space shield, to develop ways of neutralizing missiles which threaten U.S. security. We have invited you into our laboratories in order to see precisely what we are doing. What we are doing is what the USSR has been doing for 10-15 years. We consider the combination of defensive and offensive weapons ensures deterrence in the best way.

[Beasmertnykh] The general says we had no accord on any link between strategic offensive weapons and the observance of the ABM Treaty. First, this link was established even before Reykjavik, and this included the joint establishment of such a link both at a high level and at summit level. Moreover, one must bear in mind that at Reykjavik the American side gave its agreement to not using the right to pull out of the treaty for 10 years. Immediately after Reykjavik, at the first news conferences and at subsequent ones, the President and the secretary of state confirmed this. Incidentally, only quite recently we discovered that the U.S. side is back-peddalling on this and I don't think any philosophical reflections are needed on whether the Reykjavik accord is being observed or not when such overt back-tracking is discernible on one of the fundamental understandings achieved at Reykjavik. That is very important today. At Reykjavik we said strategic offensive armaments should be reduced by 50 percent in the course of 5 years. The general and I were both in Reykjavik and we know perfectly well how the talks on this went. The U.S. side is now proposing 7 years, and this is again a case of back-tracking on accords which were on the surface and were recognized by the U.S. side.

In this context, I would like to say how strange General Rowny's portrayal of the idea of the so-called space shield is. It comes across as some kind of strange structure which will destroy warheads and missiles one knows not how -- by smothering them, enveloping them, or some other method. In fact, it is a shooting shield which proposes to use the latest achievements of physics and electronics to destroy both missiles and possibly other things in the atmosphere, and perhaps even on earth. So it is not all so inoffensive as the U.S. side would like to make out.

I would also like to comment on what Mr Rowny said on the ABM Treaty. It seems to me that it is quite obvious for television viewers today what is planned for the treaty. We can today hear the views expressed that the treaty must be improved, that perhaps some new qualifying protocols should be appended, and so on. But if the U.S. side were honest enough perhaps it should be said bluntly that the ABM Treaty does not suit the U.S. side since it is hindering the new U.S. space programs, and it would perhaps be better to say directly that we -- I mean the United States -- are withdrawing from it, rather than deluding their own public and world public opinion.

[Eberle] I represent a country which did not take part in the Reykjavik talks. The majority of observers are forming the impression that no accord was achieved at Reykjavik. Nevertheless, many view the meeting as a very important event. For several moments, if one can put it this way, the clouds parted and we saw what could be achieved in the arms control sphere. Many saw this. For the European countries the Reykjavik meeting was a turning point. Mr Gorbachev was right to speak of a new thinking.

In Western Europe now we can also see the way to European security in a new way. Mr Gorbachev should realize that there is a new thinking in the West too, just as in the Soviet Union.

[Rostov] Nevertheless, it is quite obvious that we have different approaches to security problems. My next question is about the correlation between the problem of security and efforts to reduce the arms race. Over to you, Mr Eberle.

[Eberle] The main thing is that no country can achieve its own security at the expense of the security of another country. I think both West and East agree with that. At the same time, the idea of the full elimination of nuclear weapons in the next few years is seen with apprehension by the Western countries. Western Europe wants a reduction in both nuclear armaments and traditional types of weapons, but a fairly slow and cautious one. If we start to move too far and expect too much, we will merely give people false hope.

[Chervov] The nuclear potentials in the world today are enormous. Nevertheless, the nuclear arms race is continuing. And the U.S. side is additionally to take weapons into space [sentence as received]. That will not increase security. On the contrary: the security of all states will, in this case, be considerably lower and if weapons are put into space, the risk of war breaking out will increase.

The path of lasting peace indisputably leads through disarmament, through nuclear disarmament. Only disarmament can guarantee international security. The NATO concept of nuclear deterrence is today unserviceable. It is a cold war concept. The essence of it is that the more nuclear weapons there are, the greater will be security. But we know that even an unloaded gun can fire in 10 years' time, so the stockpiling of mountains of weapons can lead to a sharp diminishing of international security. Neither can international security be strengthened by the U.S. Star Wars program. As a military expert, I can state with full responsibility that the appearance of space strike weapons -- although Gen Rowny says they are not arms, but something in the order of papier-mache; but no, they are arms -- and if those arms appear in space, the risk of war will increase.

Having a shield over the United States means acquiring a first nuclear strike capability. At the present time it is impossible to acquire, or create, two securities: a reliable one for yourself and another, with slightly more holes in it, for your neighbor. No! Security must be universal and equal for all. And what the Soviet Union understands by the question of universal security is first and foremost the renunciation by the nuclear powers of war against one another, be it nuclear or conventional war. It is the prevention of an arms race in space. It is the ending of nuclear tests -- something the U.S. side is very frightened of and has no desire at all to do. It is a ban on chemical weapons; a reduction in conventional weapons to levels of sufficiency for defense only; the maintenance of military-strategic parity between the United States and the Soviet Union, and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, at an ever decreasing level; and overall a limitation of the military potentials of states to a point where the possibility of carrying out offensive operations and aggression is ruled out. We think this is where the paths lie to a lasting and secure peace.

[Rostov] Thank you very much. General, (would you say something)?

[Rowny] I would like to go back to the ABM Treaty. At one time we decided that we didn't need defense, because we planned to reduce offensive weapons.

That didn't happen. And now, in order to secure peace, greater stability, and a higher degree of deterrence we are taking our own measures. We know the Soviet Union is testing ABM systems. We know the Soviet Union is doing work in the field of antisatellite weapons. And we would like to secure deterrence by creating [sozdaniye] a defense system. In other words, we would like to create a shield in response to the sword. I don't like the way you are trying to depict the present situation. We are not testing any space arms. We are just reserving the right to secure self-defense, particularly as the Soviet Union is also working on this question. Defense has never done any harm to anyone. We are testing our systems in order to secure a balance of power. The Soviet Union has apparently not completely rejected the idea of a 50 percent reduction. However, the Soviet Union says it is ready to accept this only if the United States abandons research in the field of SDI. But there are, in fact, similar developments existing also in the Soviet Union. Let us work in both directions, developing both defense and offensive weapons.

[Bessmertnykh] I'd like to comment on what Rowny has said. He said the sides entered into the treat on limitation of antimissile defense because there was hope of simultaneously or subsequently also reducing strategic offensive weapons. It goes without saying that this was not the only reason we entered into that treaty, but nonetheless, the willingness of the sides to move in this direction was expressed by both Moscow and Washington. And something was done in this direction. The SALT II treaty was concluded, after the signing of the ABM Treaty, which to a considerable extent limited the development of strategic offensive weapons. The American side understood, and said at the time, that this was an important step, after the ABM treaty was concluded.

Yes, something more substantial might have been achieved; but we did not succeed in doing so, and we're still not succeeding. But the question arises, why? Why have the sides not been able to achieve deeper reductions? Because the American side has halted that process by at least two methods. The first was by launching a new space program, the program to develop space weapons. The second was to pull out of the SALT II treaty -- limitation of strategic offensive arms -- thereby showing us that entering into agreements with the United States is a risky business. It doesn't always observe treaties, and still less remains in them for the stated period. It even withdraws from them on one pretext or another, which naturally puts us on our guard. However much we're told by military men or by civilians, that American is not developing space strike weakpons in space [as heard] this doesn't change the essence of the matter because weapons are being developed which are aimed against the strategic offensive missiles and their warheads.

We have a very simple way out of this situation, and we are offering it to the American side. If the system is intended to eliminate strategic missiles then why not simply begin by eliminating those missiles and getting rid of those missiles together with the rest of the strategic offensive arms; then there will be no need for a shield. But no, the American side nevertheless insists on its so-called shield, and refuses to eliminate strategic offensive arms.

Indidentally, Mr Rowny was not quite accurate when he said the Soviet Union was making a 50 percent reduction of strategic offensive arms conditional on the United States giving up research in the field of SDI. We do not insist that the United States gives up SDI research. And moreover, in Reykjavik the American side was told they were welcome to go ahead with laboratory research.

And when Mr Shultz recently came to Moscow we told him what we understand by the laboratory concept. In addition, we proposed sitting down together, at the level of experts, to prepare a list of the devices that would be banned from being put in to space. In other words, we pointed to a path by which we could have found a compromise solution to the question. But again the U.S. side refused. So their main objective is, after all, to develop strike weapons in space -- despite all the persuasion and despite all the arguments, however strong.

As for security, in answer to your question I must say that we have no doubt taken -- I mean the Soviet Union and many other countries -- quite a big step in understanding what security means in the present age; that is, at the end of the 20th century, when nuclear weapons have reached incredible dimensions. We have begun to understand that the larger the level of confrontation is, the less security we have. That's the first point. The second is what we've begun to realize that security is an all-embracing matter. Therefore, the Soviet Union has put forward a new concept of security -- a comprehensive system of international security that would include all aspects -- military, economic, human rights, social, and possibly even ecological. In other words, what is needed is that all countries should move toward each other, as it were, on a wide front, and take practical steps to realize that the program, above all in the sphere of nuclear armaments, so that in the sphere of nuclear armaments we may have less danger and greater security.

[Chervov] I'll make just one remark. Gen Rowny has said that since the ABM Treaty, the Soviet Union has been, all the time, building up its strategic arms while the Americans have stood still and sat with arms folded. But this does not correspond to reality: It is disinformation. At the meeting in Reykjavik, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev handed to President Reagan a table of the correlation of strategic offensive arms: What the strategic arms of the U.S. and Soviet sides consist of. The upshot is that the American strategic offensive arms can raise, at one time, 14,000 units of nuclear ammunition, and the Soviet side 10,000. So who has been standing still and who's been building up? Who has been engaged in the arms race? This applies to the American side. So this nod in the direction of the Soviet Union is not based on fact. This merely misleads the public.

[Rostov] Excuse me. I wanted to say that the discussion has gone on twice as long as we agreed.

[Rowny] All the same, I must speak. Gen Chervov put words in my mouth. We have done nothing in the sphere of offensive arms. I must repeat that we are putting a proposal for a 50 percent reduction of strategic offensive arms. We do not demand any linkages. We are not developing offensive space arms, we are developing defensive arms. Let the USSR do the same. Let us continue to move forward in the field of arms control agreement.

[Eberle] I listened to the arguments put forward by both sides. I should emphasize that in my view both sides were frank [otkrovennyy]. I think we should continue the talks on these complex issues. The fears on both sides are real. It is necessary that military and civil specialists alike should continue to discuss these questions. We have got to continue with contacts. Our meeting in the USSR was very useful, precisely because it develops such contacts.

[Rostov] Let us express the hope that the talks and the contacts will yield the positive results Mr Eberle is hoping for. Let us conclude our discussion on this positive note. Thank you very much.

KASHLEV ADDRESSES VIENNA CSCE SESSION

LD101341 Moscow TASS in English 1319 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Vienna July 10 TASS -- In his speech at today's plenary session of the Vienna meeting of states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Yuriy Kashlev, head of the Soviet delegation, informed participants in the European meeting of the decisions taken by the June plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and by the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He pointed out that the sweeping reorganization of the Soviet economy was intrinsically linked with further democratization of all production and social life in the country. This is corroborated, in part, by the fact that the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted the laws on the state enterprise, on discussion of important issues of government life and on the order of appealing in court against wrongful actions of officials, infringing upon citizens' rights.

The Soviet representative pointed out that the reorganization opened broad vistas for stepping up foreign economic relations of the USSR and for developing promising forms of cooperation with foreign firms and business quarters.

The Soviet representative noted that the processes of the reorganization, democratization and openness, taking place in our country, were the best confirmation of the peaceful nature of the Soviet foreign policy aimed at preventing a nuclear war and at developing cooperation with all states.

Representatives of several countries participating in the Vienna meeting spoke with interest and sympathy about the reorganization in the Soviet Union and its great international significance.

COMMENTARY ON NATO'S 'MILITARY SECURITY' PROPOSAL

LD112241 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Viktor Levin commentary]

[Text] DPA reports that at the Vienna meeting of representatives of states taking part in the CSCE in Europe, the NATO states have put forward a proposal aimed at ensuring military security. At the microphone is Viktor Levin:

The above-mentioned report is a short one, and it is therefore impossible to get a complete idea of the proposal made by the NATO states. What does it say? It talks about the development of the process of trust in the military sphere, about starting talks on establishing stability in conventional armed forces throughout Europe. The proposal is made for talks to be held between representatives of the NATO member states and those of the Warsaw Pact. The remaining countries involved in the all-European process should be regularly kept informed as to how the talks are progressing and they will be given the opportunity to set forth their points of view.

I would like to draw your attention to this point. In my opinion, although NATO is taking a step forward, it is a timid step. I shall explain why I think this. Originated by the general secretary of the CPSU the concept of the common European home has firmly found its way into the political vocabulary. It was talked about at the recent meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker.

What is meant by the concept is the whole of the European Continent and the need for a joint common solution to the problems facing it. From the point of view of the given concept and military questions directly concerning NATO and the Warsaw Pact it is obviously more expedient to solve them not in the restricted circles of the members of military blocs, but with all Europeans in a common effort. Austria, Yugoslavia, Sweden -- I will not list all the neutral and nonaligned countries -- may not be members of either NATO or the Warsaw Pact, but they are no less concerned about military questions, the problems of ensuring lasting stable peace and security than those states that are members of military and political groups. They cannot but be concerned over the security of some without the security of others.

I reiterate that Europe is our common home, and its fate is our common fate. Proceeding from this fundamental aim, the socialist countries proposed that military questions also be discussed by all those taking part in the all-European process; they should be discussed together. As can be judged from the DPA report, the NATO countries do not share that opinion, although it is noteworthy that they did not make up their minds to brush it off. This provides grounds for saying that the bold, innovative ideas ensuing from the new political thinking being formed by the Soviet Union are having an effect.

KUDIN VIEWS SOVIET, PRC DISARMAMENT AIMS

OW030625 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1500 GMT 30 Jun 87

[Kudin commentary]

[Text] China calls on the Soviet Union and the United States to remove medium-range missiles not only from Europe but also from Asia. Fan Guoxiang, head of the Chinese delegation to the Geneva disarmament conference, has emphatically pointed out: The security of Europe is important and equally important is the security of Asia. Kudin, station observer, has the following comments on this matter.

It should be pointed out that the Soviet Union has repeatedly expressed its willingness to settle the medium-range missiles issue on a global basis. When our country put forward the proposal on removing Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles from Europe, we were not saying that disarmament would stop after that. Our position is that disarmament should begin in Europe and continue until nuclear weapons are eliminated on all continents. The plan put forward by the Soviet Union to build a nuclear-free world by the year 2000 is based on this ultimate objective. This shows that the Soviet Union and China share the idea of eliminating nuclear weapons in both Europe and Asia. The question is when and how this can be achieved. We suggest, as a compromise proposal, that after removal of medium-range missiles from Europe, the United States and the Soviet Union should each keep 100 warheads in the interim stage prior to the creation of a nuclear-free world. The problem is that the United States wants to keep nuclear missiles in Asia. It still has strong combatant units equipped with nuclear weapons there. In view of this threat, the Soviet Union is compelled to keep an equilibrium of forces in Asia. This is completely justified.

Let me repeat that our country stands for simultaneous removal of Soviet and American medium-range missiles from Asia. Soviet leader Gorbachev said in May this year that there is no obstacle to such a settlement if the United States eliminates its nuclear weapons in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines and moves its aircraft carriers out of the region. At the same time, the United States should not deploy medium-range missiles on its homeland either. Our position in settling this issue is consistent with China's interests because China is surrounded by U.S. nuclear bases. History shows that these bases have repeatedly threatened China's security.

IZVESTIYA CARRIES PACT PARLIAMENTARIANS APPEAL

PM101005 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 5]

["Appeal to the Parliaments and Parliamentarians of CSCE Countries]

[Text] We, chairmen of the parliaments of the Warsaw Pact member states, having discussed at our meeting in Warsaw the fundamental issues of the development of the situation on the continent of Europe and in the world as a whole, consider it our duty to make the following appeal.

Mankind is today faced with a choice: either the fruits of his genius and labors are going to ensure the attainment of new levels of the development of civilization, or even more refined and destructive kinds of weaponry will put the further existence of life on earth itself into question. There is only one sensible choice, and it must be made without delay.

All who bear responsibility for the destinies of peoples, must cast aside the prejudices and stereotypes which have taken root in international relations. Today, when immense arsenals of nuclear weapons have accumulated and represent a danger to the very survival of mankind, new approaches to the problems of peace and war are a vital necessity. We need a new political thinking which is totally in keeping with the harsh realities of the epoch. We expect this to have at its foundation the recognition of the fact that in today's conditions, war is unthinkable and must be excluded from the life of society, and that security, whether the matter concerns individual countries or whole continents, can only be mutual.

The senseless arms race has been going on for many decades and it has not only failed to enhance security on either side, but, on the contrary, is putting up ever new obstacles on the road to it. Genuine security of all and of everyone does not depend on nuclear deterrence nor on the might of the military potentials, but on common actions for the sake of creating a nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world for the benefit of today's and succeeding generations.

We are sure that the creation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security, the realization of the program for a stage-by-stage elimination of nuclear weapons and of other weapons of mass destruction by the end of the century, the establishment of mutually beneficial cooperation in the various fields and in tackling global problems of the present time would be in line with the vital interests of countries and peoples. This is precisely what millions of people are waiting for. These are the aims of the initiatives set forth by the Soviet Union, all Warsaw Pact member states, and of the constructive proposals of other countries directed at consolidating security in Europe and the world as a whole.

The parliaments as supreme bodies of state authorities which are fully responsible to their peoples have sufficient powers and political authority to make a weighty contribution toward resolving such key problems of disarmament, as:

-- The elimination of all U.S. and Soviet medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in Europe and an undelayed conclusion of an agreement on that matter;

-- A radical reduction of strategic offensive arms with the simultaneous strengthening of the regime of the ABM treaty;

-- The prevention of the emplacement of weapons in space, the prohibition of antisatellite systems and of 'space-to-earth' weapons, the use of space exclusively for peaceful purposes;

-- A complete ban on nuclear tests;

-- An early prohibition of chemical weapons and their elimination the world over;

-- A substantial reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments on the entire territory of Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals, ensuring a lowering of the intensity of military confrontation with the simultaneous maintenance of the military balance at an ever lower level and the corresponding reduction in the military spending of states;

-- The establishment of an effective system of verification -- national and international -- to monitor the process of disarmament.

The development of the international situation has of late been creating prerequisites for reversing the dangerous course of events. The Reykjavik meeting between the leaders of the USSR and the U.S. gave a tangible impetus to the disarmament talks, laid down the foundation for an agreement between the U.S.S.R and the U.S. on the elimination of entire classes of nuclear weapons in Europe and demonstrated that it is possible to rid the world of the burden of nuclear weapons.

The task now is to realize those hopes and give them a legally binding form of concrete agreements. We are increasingly aware that the parliaments of all states, primarily those in the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries, bear special responsibility for making practical steps toward the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons. It is in the best interests of nations to give full support for headway at the Soviet U.S. talks.

In this context efforts to put U.S. nuclear warheads for West German Pershing-1A missiles beyond the framework of an agreement between the USSR and the United States on medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in Europe appear to be unacceptable.

The peoples of our continent and the entire world want creative and constructive cooperation. And it is our duty to pave the way for it.

So let us pool our efforts for this end and put up a stout barrier in the way of the military threat!

All of us -- in the West and the East -- regardless of the ideological positions and political views, are aware that mutual trust is one of the fundamental factors of detente and peaceful cooperation. Proceeding from this, the Warsaw Pact member states proposed at the Political Consultative Committee meeting in Berlin to the member-countries of the North Atlantic alliance to expound the intentions by which both military-political alliances are guided in relation to each other and jointly analyze the character of their military doctrines. The Warsaw Pact member states set forth the fundamental provisions revealing the defensive essence of their doctrine, emphasizing at the same time that they would never be the first to use nuclear weapons. We are sure that constructive joint work to compare the doctrines would largely assist in dispelling the atmosphere of mistrust in Europe.

Considering the military political situation that exists in Europe, we attach great significance to steps designed to lessen military confrontation and enhance security in individual regions of Europe, to the establishment of zones free from nuclear and chemical weapons in the Balkans, in central and northern Europe. We are urging the parliaments and parliamentarians of the countries participating in the CSCE to consider carefully the plan advanced by the Polish People's Republic for reducing armaments and building up trust in Central Europe and the well known proposals put forward by the GDR, the CSSR, the Socialist Republic of Romania and the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

For our part we give due credit to all reasonable initiatives and are ready to study most carefully the relevant proposals made by NATO, neutral and nonaligned European states -- proposals aimed at improving the international political climate -- to seek jointly and back mutually acceptable solutions to the existing problems.

The parliaments of the countries participating in the CSCE are playing an ever more important role of actively promoting processes developing on the basis of the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act. We attach great significance to the strict observance by all participants in the CSCE process of the principle of inviolability of frontiers and of the territorial and political realities that took shape in consequence of World War II as a necessary condition for safeguarding peace on the continent -- the common home of the European peoples. It is our firm conviction that strict respect for national independence and sovereignty of states, nonintervention in their internal affairs, nonuse of force or threat of force, renunciation of hostile propaganda that kindles hatred for other peoples and countries, respect for human rights and basic liberties, primarily, the right to life and peace, are in line with the fundamental vital interests of the European Community.

Guided by the will of our electors we are bringing to the fore support for practical efforts aimed at lowering the level of confrontation and developing wide-scale mutually beneficial cooperation in Europe. We believe that it is the duty of all states participating in the CSCE to promote in every way the successful completion of the Vienna meeting and the adoption by it of tangible and balanced solutions on the issues discussed.

We believe that Europe which was the trailblazer of detente is now capable, more than ever before, of adding new impulses to the constructive and creative interaction in the name of security and cooperation and to positive changes on our continent and the world as a whole.

Proceeding from the objective necessity of imparting proper dynamism to the CSCE process, we are setting forth the proposal for closer interaction between the parliaments of the countries belonging to both military-political alliances and of all states participating in the CSCE, both on a bilateral and multilateral basis, including within the framework of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Along with joint moves of the parliaments in the domain of disarmament we are prepared to develop far-reaching ties and contacts on all issues of vital interest to peoples, including the coordination of measures aimed at promoting cooperation in the economic field, science, technology, culture and environment, in social and humanitarian spheres and in creating treaty and legal foundations for such cooperation.

Being convinced that direct contacts and exchanges of views between the parliaments and parliamentarians, who express the aspirations of our peoples, are an effective measure for building mutual confidence, we are unanimously backing the proposal of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic to hold in Warsaw a meeting of the chairmen of the parliaments of the states participating in the CSCE and are urging you to accept it.

A historic chance for making headway jointly toward a durable and stable peace must not be missed. There is no time to be wasted.

So let us act and act vigorously in the name of preserving the human race and peace on earth!

Presidents of the parliaments of the Warsaw Pact member states.

NEW BLOC FORUM TO COVER DISARMAMENT, DEVELOPMENT

PM251657 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jun 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Founding Conference"]

[Text] The importance of deepening cooperation in the struggle for new political thinking when solving the very acute problems facing mankind was emphasized at the founding conference, held in Moscow, of the "Problems of Peace and Disarmament" multilateral troubleshooting commission of the socialist countries' academies of sciences. Representatives of the Academies of Sciences of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, the DPRK, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, the Soviet Union, and Czechoslovakia participated in it. The scientists approved the main directions and forms of work of the multilateral troubleshooting commission and the plan of action for 1988-1990.

On the same day the conference participants together with representatives of a number of developing countries held a "roundtable" on the subject "Disarmament and Development" at the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of World Economics and International Relations. The theses "The Concept of the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development," prepared by the institute, were discussed.

The speakers emphasized that the "Disarmament and Development" formula reflects the new political thinking orientated toward cooperation and mutual assistance in the present interdependent, yet contradictory world.

The scientists spoke of the need for the profound elaboration of the problems addressed. In particular, they pointed out, it is necessary to reply in greater detail to the spurious arguments of apologists for militarism, who perceive production of means of mass destruction as a constant source of economic growth. The U.S. Administration uses these arguments to propagandize its military programs. But the facts indicate otherwise: After artificially ensuring a brief "economic takeoff," swollen military budgets then doom the capitalist economy to a long depression.

It was emphasized that disarmament will produce a substantial socioeconomic effect for all mankind. In this connection note was taken of the special significance of realizing the "disarmament and development" formula for solving the acute social and economic problems which developing countries are encountering.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD122040 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 12 Jul 87

["International Observers Roundtable" presented by Nikolay Agayants, with Yuriy Kornilov, TASS political observer, and commentator Viktor Levin]

[Text] [Agayants] Hello, comrades. We're at the height of summer, but in spite of that, and in spite of the fact that the vacation season has begun, the world's political life is not coming to a standstill. The processes taking place in the world and the events of recent days prove beyond dispute that today, the problem of survival, which of course existed previously, confronts us in its most acute form as the problem of preserving human civilization from inevitable destruction if there is a thermonuclear war. The new approaches to international affairs by which our state is guided, today constitute not only the sole possibility under existing conditions, but also the most absolutely realistic possibility. This is confirmed, among other things, by the Soviet-FRG talks held in Moscow this week, Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov's visit to Austria, and the consultative meeting of the communist and revolutionary democratic parties of the countries of Asia and the Pacific which has just ended in Ulaanbaatar.

[Levin] Finally, by the birth of the 5 billionth inhabitant of the earth, which has been marked this week. You may think this is not an event of international significance, but at the same time, the very fact that there are now 5 billion people on our planet is a very important occasion for reflection about the destiny of mankind, the destiny of all children, and the destiny of the infant who has become the 5 billionth inhabitant of the earth. The new thinking that the Soviet Union is putting forward is ideally suited to solving the problems facing mankind. The concrete examples you mentioned, Nikolay Ivanovich, the Soviet-FRG talks, the Soviet-Austrian talks and so on, confirm that we are putting into effect our policy of implementing the new political thinking. We are making it concrete, we are giving that philosophy specific content in accordance with today's requirements.

[Agayants] Yes, here's a concrete example. On 7 July, in the Yekaterinenskiy Hall of the Kremlin Palace, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev had a meeting with FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker. Welcoming the distinguished West German guest and FRG Foreign Minister Genscher, who accompanied him, the CPSU Central Committee general secretary reminded him that during Genscher's visit to Moscow last year, it seemed to have been agreed that a new page would be turned in bilateral relations, but that so far, that page has remained blank, and at one time there was even a threat that the entire book might be closed. Fortunately, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev noted, that did not happen. It is in this light that we regard the present visit of the FRG president to the USSR. All signs are that the talks were not easy. They touched on a wide range of problems concerning relations between our two countries and on the general European and human level. Tell us more about this, Viktor Nikolayevich.

[Levin] First I'd like to remind listeners what Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev meant when he said that at one time there was even a threat that as yet unwritten new page in the book of Soviet-FRG relations might be closed. This happened through the fault of the FRG. We must be clear about this.

At the time of the election campaign in the FRG, when the parties of the present coalition government who'd also been in power before the elections were fighting to keep their seats in parliament, certain statements were made and -- I'd even say -- measures taken, which were in no way conducive to improving Soviet-FRG relations. On the contrary, a deep shadow was cast on those relations.

At the time, many sober-minded FRG politicians said with reason that it would probably be some time before the situation could be restored to normal, before a new stage, a new frontier, could be reached in relations with the Soviet Union. I don't think we've forgotten all that has happened -- no, it wouldn't be true to say that -- but we're realists and we fully understand that one should not overestimate certain negative phenomena if there is a desire to rectify past mistakes.

West Germany has recently shown that it does, indeed, want to get over the problems that have been created. It seems to me this visit by FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker has been just such an attempt, and that this attempt has been successful. Certainly, it has been a success. The dialogue has been carried a stage further and new vistas have been opened.

We know how the visit has been evaluated by FRG Chancellor Kohl: He has said that the visit of the FRG president is a milestone on the path to a deeper mutual understanding between the two countries. Foreign Minister Genscher, who accompanied Von Weizsaecker on his trip to the Soviet Union, has remarked that both governments are looking to the future. This is undoubtedly a positive sign, and we observe with satisfaction that progress has been made, though -- and this must also be pointed out -- not all the questions have been resolved. By no means all.

[Agayants] At the meeting in the Yekaterinenskiy Hall of the Kremlin Palace, Richard von Weizsaecker mentioned in the course of the conversation a question that the Western Sovietologists regard as delicate: the question of the German nation. In reply, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev declared, quite precisely, clearly, and firmly, that he was not inclined to theorize about the concept in the present context. What is important now, he said, is the political aspect. There are two German states with different sociopolitical systems. They have their own values. Both have learned the lessons of history and each can make its contribution to the affairs of Europe and of the world. What will happen in a hundred years, history will decide.

If anyone were to take a different path the consequences would be very serious. On this point there must be absolute clarity, said Comrade Gorbachev. He recalled the plans of Churchill and the American after the war, and the fact that it is not the Soviet Union that is to blame for the splitting of Germany. Today, the two German states are a reality: We must proceed on that basis.

I thought it necessary to come back to this problem because in the West, a good number of stupid rumors, conjectures, and speculations are still being put forward concerning the notorious so-called German question. All the stops have been pulled out. But what has been the reaction to this, Viktor Nikolayevich?

[Levin] Well, in the first place, you've noted quite rightly that a very unhealthy and exaggerated ruckus is being raised in the West over this issue. Here, once again, there is good reason to recall the speech made not so long ago in West Berlin by U.S. President Reagan. That was the demagogic speech in which he called for the removal of the wall and the abolition of the border between the GDR and the FRG. But there is such a thing as political reality. The socialist GDR exists, and the capitalist FRG exists.

This deliberate whipping up of the question, deliberate whipping up of passions over the so-called German question, the importunate reiteration of the claim that the German question is so to speak not closed -- all this doesn't help to create a favorable political atmosphere in Europe. In fact, it raises the atmosphere to a greater height of tension and thereby makes urgent problems more difficult to solve. We constantly hear now from the lips of FRG representatives -- highly-placed FRG representatives -- that the Moscow Treaty remains the foundation of our relations. That's fine. But all this -- I'd say -- importunate talk of the German question being open, this is not in accord with the Moscow Treaty. Surely it's not enough just to declare one's adherence to some political document or to some proposition: It must be embodied in concrete policy, real policy.

The answer Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev gave in his conversation with Von Weizsaecker was precise and clear, and what it meant, I repeat, was this: There are, and this is the main point, two German states; this is the reality that we must start from and which must be taken into account. On a footing of reality, the prospects for developing our relations with the FRG are enormous.

[Kornilov] Here, Viktor Nikolayevich, we're talking about factors which, in a general way, I'd say are hindering the development of a positive Helsinki process in Europe. Among these factors is another that can be noted. A new term has now cropped up in the West European press: In German it is kecker spatz, meaning something like impudent sparrow. What kind of a bird is this? We learn that this is to be the name of the joint exercise by the French Armed Forces and the FRG Bundeswehr scheduled for September. Efforts are being made to set up a joint French-FRG military brigade. The French minister of defense, speaking recently in Paris, alluded that this military cooperation between France and West Germany will be carried out within the framework of the NATO bloc. French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, in an interview just published on 8 July in the Paris newspaper LE MONDE, urged that the countries of Western Europe should continue their efforts to organize their joint defense on the basis of a so-called European security charter. Again, the French defense minister, speaking in Paris, not only advocated intensifying French-FRG military cooperation, but also tried to cast a shadow over the Soviet peace proposals and call into question the very idea of curbing the arms race in Europe.

[Agayants] Yes, that is so, Yuriy Emmanuilovich, but I'd like to return to the FRG-Soviet talks that have been held this week in Moscow. Our line, our course, is clear and precise. We are for honest competition between the two systems, excluding war, hot or cold, economic psychological. We are for equal, mutually beneficial cooperation. More concretely than ever before, we stand before the alternative: Either we survive together, or we perish together. So there is only one choice open to us that we can make together and that is to interact and to cooperate. The opposite course, of confrontation, we reject. It is our firm conviction that peace and cooperation must be built on the foundation of disarmament and security for all. That is why our country is putting forward its program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the present century. The FRG president was told this in Moscow in no uncertain terms.

I personally felt that Richard von Weizsaecker's stance during the talks was affected not only by the character of the Atlantic views and concepts regarding, among other things, Euromissiles, but also by the constant influence of the FRG's partner in that bloc, Washington. Though, in words, all this was dressed up to look very respectable, but perhaps I'm wrong.

[Levin] There's one question here to which, quite honestly, I don't yet know the answer. We know what Bonn's official position is on Euromissiles. That position is expressed in the fact that the FRG supports the Soviet-U.S. agreement which is being worked out on eliminating medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles. But at the same time, Bonn is persistently trying to remove from the subject matter of the talks -- to place beyond the scope of those talks -- its own Pershing-1A missiles and their missiles of the operational and tactical class with a range of 700-750 km, which have U.S. nuclear warheads. Now, this element raises a number of questions. Who is the initiator here? Are the Bonn circles acting here on their own initiatives, on the basis of their own national interests as they see them? After all, what is the situation? If a Soviet-U.S. agreement is concluded on the elimination of medium-range and operational and tactical missiles -- and there is hope of that and I do not think one can still say at the present time that we may even get such an agreement this year -- if, then, that agreement does come about while the Pershing-1A missiles with U.S. nuclear warheads remain, it will undermine the treaty. Well, I think the main question is not: Who is the initiator? The main point is that the U.S. nuclear warheads for those FRG missiles are a factor that hangs like a heavy weight shackling the feet of the parties to the talks.

[Kornilov] The upshot of it all is that, objectively, the FRG is a co-possessor of nuclear weapons, and if so, this is in any case a violation of the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

[Levin] Quite right. This is another thing that attention was drawn to at the talks with Von Weizsaecker. I think we simply have to repeat that, yes, the right of the FRG president to the Soviet Union was needed; yes, it was useful; yes, it enabled us to move forward in Soviet-FRG relations, but at the same time questions remain and that we must work on, have to solve.

[Kornilov] I'd put it this way, Viktor Nikolayevich, that if you take what we've been saying in a broad perspective, then this visit and these talks have demonstrated once again the strength and timeliness of the new political thinking and of the new philosophy in Soviet foreign policy. Now this brings me to a curious fact. A book called Hammer has just been published in New York. It's the autobiography of Armand Hammer, a prominent representative of U.S. business circles who is also very widely known in our country. He was in the Soviet Union in 1922, as a young businessman, and met Vladimir Ilich Lenin. Now, in the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October, we turn particularly often in memory to our history.

Well, Hammer writes in his book that when he was in Moscow and met Lenin, he presented to Lenin, as a souvenir, a statuette he'd bought in London of a monkey sitting on a volume of Charles Darwin and examining a human skull. Hammer recalls in his book that Lenin was greatly taken by the symbolism of this little statuette and made an extraordinarily perspicacious remark. As the weapons of war become more and more destructive, he said, civilization may be destroyed unless mankind learns to live in space. The time may come, Lenin continued, when a monkey surviving on earth will pick up the skull of a man, look at it, and wonder where it came from. Hammer writes that Lenin was saying this 23 years before the explosion of the first atom bomb. An interesting fact and it happened, I repeat, in the year 1922. In 1918, 3 years before the encounter, Vladimir Ilich Lenin had noted that: Modern technology is now making war more and more destructive, but there will come a time when war will be so destructive that it will cease to be possible at all. These words have been preserved for us in her reminiscences by Nadezhda Konstantinovna Krupskaya. How prophetic, how relevant and topical these words of Lenin seem to us today!

[Agayants] Now, in this notable year in our own history and in the history of mankind, the Soviet Union is demonstrating a realistic and constructive foreign policy literally in all areas of activity and in all regions of the globe. We've already mentioned today the visit of the head of the Soviet Government, Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, to Austria. This is also very indicative of our course in foreign affairs: the development of good relations with all states. During the visit to Austria of the Soviet delegation led by Comrade Ryzhkov, a number of agreements were signed, for instance on trade in the Danube region between the USSR and Austria; a protocol on cooperation in the deliveries of natural gas from the USSR to Austria; and agreement on cooperation in the tourist trade; a program of cultural and scientific cooperation, and so on. We believe that the potential for developing Soviet-Austrian economic relations is far from exhausted. We're now beginning to talk about developing industrial aware that Austria could also play a very substantial role, not only in the development of economic relations, not only in the creation of new economic systems, but that it could also play a very important political role in the life of the European Continent, in the life of the entire world. It's this urge to develop relations in every direction, this striving to bring into action the whole potential for strengthening peace that is the hallmark of our policy.

[Levin] It's perfectly apparent that today, when huge armories of nuclear weapons have been stockpiled and pose a threat to the very survival of the human race, new approaches to the problems of war and peace are a vital necessity; that we need a new political thinking that will fully correspond to the harsh realities of the age. We assume it must be based on recognizing the fact that in modern conditions, war is unthinkable and must be excluded from the life of society; that security, whether it be a question of particular countries or of entire continents, can only be mutual. That is our position, that is our course, and we adhere to it rigorously.

Recently, as we know, there has been a dangerous escalation of tension in the Gulf.

[Agayants] The international waters which are traditionally used for mercantile and other peaceful transportation are being traversed by naval ships, whose number has sharply increased, including the ships of countries situated thousands of miles away from this explosive region. Naturally, the long and pointless war between Iran and Iraq also cannot fail to increase the tension of the situation. As a result, as has already been noted in the statement of the Soviet Government, the events in the Persian Gulf are drawing near to the dangerous line beyond which there is a risk that the regional conflict could develop into a situation of international crisis. It is clear that this turn of events is arousing serious alarm and concern on the part of the entire international community, including the Soviet Union.

Our government has proposed a number of immediate and effective measures which, if taken would help to considerably reduce the tension in the Gulf zone and contribute to bringing the Iran-Iraq war to an end as quickly as possible. In particular, the proposals stated that all warships of states that do not belong to this region should be withdrawn from the waters of the Persian Gulf in the shortest possible time. However, time is going by and unfortunately we still have not received an intelligible answer from across the ocean.

[Levin] You know, the reply that has come from Washington is, I would say, rather negative. The point is that the first reaction was this: Let the Russians depart while we wait and see. Then the next day Washington hastened to clarify this.

No, they said, even if the Russians leave, we will stay, because if we leave, then the Russians will come back. They are not far away and it is easy for them to do this.

Well, this is a very distorted logic. There is not even any logic here. This is just an attempt to evade answering a clear and distinct question. You see, this is precisely the point: that the Persian Gulf is another region and another location where there is a clash not only of the political interests of various states but also of the new political thinking of the Soviet Union with the imperial policy of the United States. The question is, indeed, not a simple one.

Under the conditions created by the Iran-Iraq war, it is of course necessary to provide for the security of shipping in this region, and of course, we too -- the Soviet Union -- are undertaking appropriate measures to do so. We are not making a secret of the fact that a week ago three of our minesweepers engaged solely in the act of escorting merchant ships, were in the Persian Gulf.

In addition to them, we had a frigate there for the security of Soviet merchant ships passing through the Gulf; and vessels in the zone close to the Persian Gulf there was a command liaison ship [shtabnoy svyoznoy korabl]. The United States has now assembled as many 15 warships there. That is, if one takes the correlation of the naval vessels, the U.S. number sharply exceeds ours. But we are not setting out to make the level of our naval presence there match the U.S. presence. On the contrary, we are proposing that we all leave, both we and the Americans, and that at the same time effective and concrete steps be undertaken to bring peace between Iran and Iraq.

Undoubtedly, this is not a very simple problem. But I think that to begin by withdrawing our naval fleets is a realistic proposition, and this negative position of the part of Washington shows once more that this is a very dangerous tendency. You see, another of the factors in the U.S. Administration's failure to understand how the situation has changed lies precisely in the fact that Washington views very many regional conflicts first and foremost from the point of view of the military confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact Organization -- the military confrontation between the United States and the USSR. The logic is this: Whatever is bad for the United States is good for the USSR, and whatever's good for the Soviet Union is bad for the United States. Hence, the troubles in the Contadora Group, which is searching for ways to settle the conflict in Central America. This also affects to a great extent the zone of the Persian Gulf, and particularly -- I think one can say, particularly -- influences the U.S. approach to the so-called Afghan problem.

[Agayants] Yes, 6 months have gone by since Kabul proclaimed its policy of national reconciliation and a series of practical steps to achieve accords with all those who value peace on the ancient soil of Afghanistan. I will remind you that the text of the law on political parties which was ratified by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium has been published this week. Before this, an assembly of the nomadic tribes. The first in the history of the country -- had taken place in the capital.

Its participants passed a resolution expressing full support of the policy of national reconciliation. These are all very important positive symptoms of the changes taking place in Afghanistan. Yet, imperialist propaganda is making enormous noise night and day and shouting from the rooftops its rejection of the DRA's Government's policy aimed at normalizing the situation in the country and stopping the fratricidal war.

[Kornilov] You are right, Nikolay Ivanovich. The course of national reconciliation in Afghanistan, despite all the difficulties and complexities, which do exist and not to mention them would be wrong, is nevertheless being implemented. Indeed, I would add to what you have said about some further figures, which were just published a day or two ago in Kabul. Here they are: Despite the obstacles being erected by the Pakistani and Iranian authorities, over 62,000 refugees have already returned home to Afghanistan and 25,000 members of armed groups have voluntarily laid down their arms. All this is so, but unfortunately you are right about something else, that there is opposition to the process of national reconciliation and it is continuing. The enemies of sovereign Afghanistan have by no means laid down their arms. All this ranks with those same examples we have been citing here and that concerned the Persian Gulf and the Contadora Group.

When I was in Pakistan recently, I saw with my own eyes how from the port of Karachi, to which U.S. ships loaded with arms come one after another, columns of trucks are under the cover of night conveying these weapons to Peshawar, to the Afghan-Pakistan border, and to those areas that have, through the efforts by the CIA and the Pentagon, been transformed into a springboard for the undeclared war against sovereign Afghanistan.

[Agayants] All the facts that have been mentioned are further confirmation of the timeliness and topicality of the final document that was adopted in Ulaanbaatar by the participants of the consultative meeting of representative of communist and revolutionary-democratic parties in the countries of the Asian-Pacific region. The document stresses that local conflicts are continuing as a result of the actions of the supporters of force and crude pressure and that attempt are being undertaken to destabilize the situation in countries pursuing an independent and anti-imperialist foreign policy. The participants of the meeting in Mongolian capital approved the peace-loving steps of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries directed at normalizing the international situation and at achieving disarmament. Thus, one can quite responsibly say that the Ulaanbaatar meeting was fruitful and useful. Indeed it is symptomatic that it took place in the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which, as is well known, played a decisive role in awakening enslaved peoples.

The time allotted for our program has come to an end. Thank you, comrades, for your attention. All the best to you!

IZVESTIYA ARTICLE ON U.S. EMBASSY COMPLEX CITED

LD101306 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 10 TASS -- The newspaper IZVESTIYA today published an article entitled "Why is the commissioning of the new embassy complexes of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S. in Moscow and Washington being delayed?" It says:

"Another anti-Soviet farce has been started in Washington, this time over the 'problem' of the new complex of buildings of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow: Almost completed, the complex now, as they say, is no good at all. This is why, as some people on the banks of the Potomac are demanding almost hysterically, Soviet diplomats should be prevented from moving into the new building of the U.S.S.R. Embassy in Washington.

Vigilant 'patriots' including individual right-wing conservative figures in Congress, have allegedly discovered after so many years spent on the construction of the new buildings of both embassy complexes that the American side found itself in an unequal position: Its complex in Moscow allegedly sits on 'a bog', while the Soviet complex in Washington -- 'on a hill'. But what offends them most, to the point which is unbearable as the 'patriots' are heard shouting, is that the new building of the U.S. Embassy is allegedly 'permeated with Soviet special equipment'.

What has been built in Moscow should be demolished, razed to the ground, they are urging, and demand that Soviet authorities instead allocate a new, 'more prestigious' site for the U.S. Embassy and on top of this compensate the costs of the construction and demolition of the almost completed building -- no more, no less!

This means -- down with the official intergovernmental agreement on the exchange of land plots for the construction of the new embassies in Moscow and Washington. Isn't it a patent example of a 'cavalier' attitude to one's international commitments?

What happened in actual fact and why this outcry on the other side of the Atlantic over the latter-day 'issue' which some people are trying to elevate to the status of a 'problem of top importance' in Soviet-American relations?

The intergovernmental agreements dated 1969 and 1972 envisioned the construction of the new embassy complexes of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.: In Washington in the neighborhood named Mount-Alto and in Moscow -- almost in the center of the city not far from Kalinin Avenue. The plots allocated to each other perfectly satisfied the sides -- otherwise there would have been no agreement in the first place. As to Moscow, the Americans at that time clearly saw as fit the site allocated for the construction of their embassy, including from the standpoint of 'prestige' -- a matter over which Washington is so concerned now. Suffice it to say that the buildings of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation and of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance are located nearby.

It was specially agreed that neither side would create conditions or allow conditions to develop which would hinder full access to them (i.e. the new complexes) or their fitting use and ownership. At that time the Americans undertook to move out of the old embassy building on Tchaikovsky Street following the completion of the new one (Article 9 of the 1969 agreement).

By the beginning of this year construction work on both new embassies was on the whole completed. Offices of the consular section and the quarters of the embassy guards, a canteen, a store, a spacious garage, and sports facilities located underground were completed and went into service at the construction site of the American Embassy compound. The Soviet side is using approximately the same quarters and facilities in Washington.

The construction of all structures of the new embassy compounds in Washington and Moscow could be completed shortly and they could be put into service. This could be done simultaneously -- in compliance with the agreement. However, the American side is demonstratively in no hurry to do so. Moreover, it is following the course toward delaying, under different far-fetched pretexts, the commissioning of the chancery building of its embassy in Moscow, and hindering the move of our embassy in Washington into the new chancery building from the small and old house acquired way back before World War I.

Perhaps, simply the Americans really 'no longer like' the location of the site where the new U.S. Embassy was built and for that reason they are ready to ignore the agreement signed by them? The reason, it seems, by no means lies in considerations of 'prestige' or 'comfort'. It is plain that the reason is that someone in Washington is unhappy with the possibilities of the new compound for conducting electronic intelligence operations. Properly speaking, no effort is made there to conceal that: There have been complaints that the site is 'rather low', say, for electronic 'eavesdropping and screening of the metropolitan area' of the Soviet capital. Well, that explains everything!

And what about 'Soviet technical infiltration' of the new building of the U.S. Embassy? The intensity of the current outcry notwithstanding, no proofs were furnished overseas to confirm it. By contrast, only recently samples of special equipment planted in the premises of Soviet institutions in the U.S., including offices and residential quarters of the new embassy compound of the U.S.S.R., were demonstrated in Moscow and Washington. At a news conference in Washington journalists were shown American eavesdropping devices 'in their natural state' and were given the opportunity to see for themselves where and how they had been installed by 'master craftsmen' from the U.S. secret services.

This is why such feverish attempts are made in the United States to put a propaganda smokescreen to conceal operations of its own secret services against Soviet representative offices and to switch attention to so-called 'intrigues of Soviet authorities' with respect to the U.S. Embassy in the U.S.S.R.

Well, it's nothing new. And, quite possibly, it can seem to someone that no serious attention should be paid to that -- one of many -- anti-Soviet plan of our opponents in the U.S. Perhaps this could be so, but only if the case in point was merely caprices and ambitions of the American secret services or the striving to distract with this cheap play attention of the U.S. public from domestic political difficulties encountered by the current U.S. Administration. All this is obvious enough, although, quite naturally, all this is dangerous of and in itself for the interests of the normal course and development of Soviet-American relations. However, another thing is more dangerous now: We witness a purposeful effort of certain quarters in Washington to undermine the beginnings of mutual understanding between the United States and the U.S.S.R. on key disarmament issues and torpedo prospects for reaching practical agreements on the reduction and elimination of nuclear arms. For that purpose they are trying to maintain at any cost passions of anti-Sovietism in their country at a 'fitting' (as they see it) level.

One would like to hope, nonetheless, that enough common sense will be displayed in the U.S. Government departments and on Capitol Hill in order not to burden the atmosphere of our relations, and especially so, at such a crucial moment when a realistic opportunity emerged to come to terms on far-reaching measures along the lines of curbing the arms race.

AEROFLOT OFFICE INCIDENT, 'TERRORISM' IN U.S. VIEWED

LD110948 Moscow TASS in English 0932 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] Washington July 11 TASS -- correspondent Igor Borisenko reports:

A suspicious object was found Friday not far from the entrance to the Aeroflot representative office in downtown Washington. When employees of the office arrived at the place of work, a section of the sidewalk near the building housing the Aeroflot was cordoned off by police. A small pasteboard box left several meters from the entrance to the Aeroflot was thoroughly inspected with the aid of special equipment.

A representative of the police said that no explosives were detected in the box. He said there were miscellaneous metal objects.

The close attention of the police to the box put near the Aeroflot office has been caused by the fact that acts of terrorism were staged on more than one occasion against Soviet institutions, including against Aeroflot offices and individual Soviet citizens in the United States.

Although the authorities assure that they do everything to prevent such acts, terrorists go ahead with their criminal activity.

YAKOVLEV RECEIVES FORMER U.S. ENVOY WATSON

LD102158 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Comrade Yakovlev, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee today received former U.S. Ambassador to the USSR Watson, who is undertaking a commemorative flight on the route Raybrook, New York State, Reykjavik, Helsinki, Moscow, Novosibirsk, Yakutsk, Anadyr, Anchorage, Great Falls, Washington, dedicated to the 45th anniversary of the start of air transportation of military and civilian freight from the United States to the Soviet Union during World War II.

In a warm and frank [otkrovennyy] conversation, Soviet-American relations and the opportunities for cooperation between the scientists of both countries in studying foreign policy and international relations were discussed. Great interest was expressed on the part of the partner in the conversation with respect to the process of restructuring in our country and its influence on strengthening peace and international security.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON RAZUMOVSKIY'S OFFICIAL VISIT

Delegation Visits Shenyang

PM101304 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jul 87 Second Edition

[TASS report: "Familiarization With Shenyang"]

[Text] Shenyang, 9 Jul -- Today a delegation of the Legislative Proposals Commission of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by G.P. Razumovskiy, chairman of the Soviet of the Union Legislative Proposals Commission and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which is in the PRC, arrived in the town of Shenyang, capital of Liaoning Province.

The delegation laid a wreath at the monument to Soviet soldiers who fell in battles against Japanese militarism in 1945. During a friendly conversation with the leadership of the permanent committee of the Assembly of Peoples' Representatives and the government of the province a readiness was expressed to develop further cooperation between the USSR and the PRC in the trade and economic, scientific and technical, cultural, and other fields.

The sides paid great attention to discussion of matters concerning the implementation of economic reform in the PRC, and restructuring in the USSR.

The Soviet parliamentarians were told in detail about the economic development of Liaoning Province and Shenyang City.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies briefed their Chinese interlocutors on how the Soviet people are working on putting into practice the strategy of acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development which was approved by the 27th CPSU Congress and developed and concretized in the decisions of the January and June plenums of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Soviet delegation visited a machine tool factory, which is a basic enterprise for the production of goods for export and is using various forms of developing production and commercial ties with foreign partners.

The guests from the USSR also familiarized themselves with the largest center in the PRC for trade with means of production and materials being manufactured at enterprises above the established planned targets.

Visits Dalian, Returns Home

LD111225 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1055 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] Beijing, 11 Jul (TASS) -- The delegation from the Legislative Proposals Commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by Georgiy Razumovskiy, chairman of the Legislative Proposals Commission of the Soviet of the Union and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has visited the city of Dalian.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies laid a wreath beside the monument to Soviet servicemen who fell in battle against the Japanese aggressors.

During a warm and friendly meeting, the leaders of the city assembly of people's representatives talked to the Soviet parliamentarians about the development of the city's economy and the growth in the well-being of its population, and also about the implementation of the policy of expanding ties with the outside world, in which this port city plays no small part. Conviction was expressed that the visit of the Soviet delegation will promote the further strengthening of cooperation between the PRC and the USSR on the basis of equality and mutual benefit in the interests of the peoples of both countries.

The Soviet parliamentarians noted that, during the visits to Beijing, Zhangzhou, Shanghai, Shenyang, and Dalian they saw the Chinese people, under the guidance of the CPC, seeking to achieve positive results in social and economic construction by finding new approaches to raising efficiency. The importance of mutual enrichment through experience was emphasized. In Dalian, where there are quite a few symbols of the common struggle for freedom and independence, and evidence of the fruitfulness of cooperation, the need for good-neighborliness between the two great peoples is particularly visible. The deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet visited the sea port and a number of industrial enterprises, and familiarized themselves with the construction that is taking place in the city.

On the same day, having concluded its visit to the PRC, the delegation left Beijing for home. At the capital's airport, they were seen off by Song Rufen, vice chairman of the Legislative Affairs Commission of the National People's Congress.

Expresses Interest in Economic Reform

OW100135 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2220 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Viktor Konnov commentary from the Novosti newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The visit to China by a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Councils' Legislative Proposals Commission headed by Comrade Razumovskiy is continuing.

[Konnov] Hello, comrades. Contacts and ties between the Soviet Union and China, particularly between the parliaments of the two countries, are acquiring an increasingly diverse nature. They are not only actively promoting the strengthening of mutual understanding between our countries and advancement of Soviet-Chinese relations, but they are also of great significance in terms of exchanging experience in conducting reforms in the economic system. This was particularly noted during the meeting in Beijing between Yao Yilin, member of the CPC Central Committee and vice premier of the PRC State Council, and the Soviet delegation, as well as during Comrade Razumovskiy's talks with Peng Chong, chairman of the Legislative Affairs Commission of the PRC National People's Congress. It was noted during the meeting and talks that despite the specific USSR and PRC conditions, the methods of their advance during the construction of socialism are similar in many ways. In this area, our countries have a large area for cooperation and exchange of experience.

During the Soviet delegation's tour of the country it was stressed that the USSR is following with great interest the implementation and intensification of the reform of the Chinese economy, and considers that improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations and good-neighborly cooperation corresponds with the fundamental interests of the peoples of both states, the interests of strengthening peace and security in Asia as well as peace throughout the world. Satisfaction was also expressed in connection with the expansion of ties and contacts between cities of the USSR and the PRC.

GORBACHEV SENDS MESSAGE TO ASIA-PACIFIC COMMUNISTS

LD092113 Moscow TASS in English 1458 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar July 9 TASS -- By TASS correspondents Kim Boldokhonov and [name indistinct].

The consultative meeting of representatives of communist and revolutionary-democratic parties of the Asia-Pacific region has closed here today.

The delegates to the forum warmly welcomed the message from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. "It is with gratification that I have learnt about your successful work," the Soviet leader pointed out. "I am expressing the hope that this first meeting of communists of the region will be an important contribution to creating a security system in Asia and the Pacific, to strengthening universal peace." "I wish you all every success in this noble effort."

As is pointed out in the joint announcement on the meeting, its participants expressed concern over the remaining tensions and instability in the vast and most populous part of the world. A source of indignation for the peoples is a strengthening here of U.S. military presence and deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons, the continuing nuclear tests, the steps towards reviving Japanese militarism, the attempts to create new military political groups. A wasteful arms race and an onerous foreign debt system are forced on the newly independent countries. Attempts are made to destabilize the situation in the countries pursuing an independent, anti-imperialist foreign policy. All this adversely affects the general state of international relations.

The delegate to the meeting pointed out that there are no small potentialities in Asia and the Pacific for building up and pooling the efforts of all people of goodwill in the fight for a world free from nuclear weapons and the use of force. These aims would be best served by any steps directed at nuclear disarmament and putting an end to the weapons race, eliminating the seats of tensions, building up confidence, developing economic cooperation and firmly asserting the principles of non-use of force, non-interference in each other's home affairs, a radical cut in military expenditure and the diversion of the funds thus released to meeting the needs of the developing nations would help towards overcoming backwardness by them.

The participants in the meeting expressed support for the constructive initiatives of the socialist countries, the positive proposals of the other Asian-Pacific states and declared for creating nuclear-free and peace zones in Asia and the Pacific.

The delegates to the meeting pointed out the vital significance of strengthening the interaction of the communist and revolutionary democratic parties with other peace forces, declared their preparedness for a dialogue and joint actions with the political parties, organisations and movements favouring the elimination of the nuclear threat and the turning of Asia and the Pacific into a zone of peace and progress.

DOBRYNIN ATTENDS ULAANBAATAR ANNIVERSARY MEETING

LD102142 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] A ceremonial meeting dedicated to the 66th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution was held in Ulaanbaatar today.

Comrade Batmonh, Sodnom and other leaders of the party and state participated. Present at the meeting was Comrade Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was heading the CPSU delegation at the consultative meeting of representatives of communist and revolutionary-democratic parties of the Asian and Pacific region countries which was held in the Mongolian capital.

Interviewed on Peace Initiatives

LD101350 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0840 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 10 Jul (TASS) -- The program for peace in Asia and the Pacific put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Vladivostok is a year old. It can be said today with every justification that its ideas are alive and working for the cause of the peace and security of peoples. A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, says this in an interview published today in the newspaper 'UNEN'.

The USSR, he stressed, is doing everything it can to move the concept of guaranteeing peace and security in this vast region onto a plane of specific actions. The whole range of global-scale peace initiatives advanced of late by our country on the basis of the new political thinking is doubtless having a positive influence in this sense.

At the same time, the USSR's ties with the countries of Asia and the Pacific are broadening and deepening, and regular contacts are being maintained with many states in this region. Specifically, the signing of the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free of nuclear weapons is an outstanding result of cooperation with India.

We actively support the peace initiative of the socialist countries of Asia for the normalization of the situation in the region and for the settlement of local conflicts, as well as the proposals and practical steps of a number of nonsocialist states for the creation of a peace zone and a nuclear-free zone in Asia and the Pacific.

As M.S. Gorbachev has stated repeatedly, there is no step toward the reduction and elimination of weapons and military presences that we will not take in conjunction with the United States on the basis of reciprocity and equal security for us and our allies. So for the most part, it is now a question of the West displaying a constructive attitude to the problems of peace in Asia and the Pacific.

Assessing the significance of the consultative meeting of representatives of communist and revolutionary-democratic parties "for peace, security, and goodneighborly cooperation in Asia and the Pacific" that has closed in Ulaanbaatar, A.F. Dobrynin said that the CPSU accords great importance to the unity of action of communists and all forces acting from a standpoint of peace, humanism, and the survival of mankind. Thus the meeting was most timely, its occurrence marked a strengthening of the unity of the ranks, of interaction, of an expansion of cooperation and the attainment of a new level in mutual understanding between fraternal parties on matters of the struggle for peace and security.

IZVESTIYA REPORTER ARRESTED FOR DRUNKENNESS

OW101309 Tokyo KYODO in English 1306 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Tokyo, July 10 KYODO -- The Tokyo bureau chief of the Soviet Government newspaper IZVESTIYA was arrested early Friday morning for being drunk and disorderly, police said.

Sergey Agafanov, 27, entered a French restaurant in the Roppongi amusement quarter at around 1:15 a.m. Friday, police said. The restaurant had closed, but a woman employee was still on the premises.

Agafanov resisted three policemen who rushed to the scene, kicking one of them in the chest and stomach, police said.

Agafanov came to Japan in December 1985 as the sole correspondent of the Soviet Government newspaper, they said.

JAPANESE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC DELEGATION VISITS USSR

PM071127 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Great Interest"]

[Text] A delegation of the Japanese Social Democratic Federation headed by its chairman, S. Eda, visited the Soviet Union from 29 June through 6 July at the CPSU Central Committee's invitation.

The delegation was received at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the CPSU Central Committee International Department, the PRAVDA editorial office, the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of the Economy, and the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Oriental Studies.

The Japanese guests visited Leningrad.

The Social Democratic Federation delegation showed great interest in the process of restructuring in the Soviet Union and expressed support for the Soviet foreign policy initiatives aimed at ending the arms race, eliminating nuclear weapons, and improving the political climate in the world.

INDIAN PRIME MINISTER SIGNS ACCORD, CONCLUDES VISIT

Gorbachev, Gandhi Conclude Talks

LD031438 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 3 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 3 TASS -- Today Mikhail Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi continued and concluded their one-on-one conversations in the same spirit of mutual trust and openness and made an indepth study of a number of international problems, especially those that directly concern the security of both countries. Principled questions of bilateral ties were also dealt with.

IZVESTIYA Reports Gandhi Departure

PM061221 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Visit Concluded"]

[Excerpt] Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, departed Moscow for home 4 July. He was on an official friendly visit to our country at the Soviet leadership's invitation.

Rajiv Gandhi and his wife were seen off at the aircraft steps at Sheremetyevo airport by N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and his wife; E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; and A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Taking part of the send-off ceremony were V.M. Kamentsev and B.L. Tolstykh, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; G.I. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; USSR Ministers B.I. Aristov, A.N. Volkov, and V.G. Zakharov; USSR State Committee Chairmen, A.N. Aksenov, M.V. Gramov, and K.F. Katushev; Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister; Moscow Gorispolkom Chairman V.T. Saykin; USSR ambassador to India V.N. Rykov; and other officials. Indian ambassador to the USSR T.N. Kaul was among the send-off party. [passage omitted]

Gandhi Arrives in New Delhi

LD040513 Moscow TASS in English 0509 GMT 4 Jul 87

[Text] New Delhi Jul 4 TASS - Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi gave a high appraisal of the results of the negotiations with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other Soviet leaders. He spoke to journalists at the Delhi International Airport after his return from Moscow today where he stayed on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

Asked by a TASS correspondent about his visit, he said that he had an exchange of opinions with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on a number of issues of mutual interest. The sides discussed the progress of fulfilling understandings reached during Gorbachev's visit to New Delhi last November.

The signing of a comprehensive long-term programme for scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and India was one of the results of the latest Soviet-Indian summit. The sides confirmed their commitment to the Delhi Declaration based on nuclear disarmament and non-violence.

Commenting on the statement of the Soviet Government concerning the dangerous growth of tension in the Persian Gulf, the Indian prime minister said that India believed that the Soviet Union was interested in defusing tension in the Persian Gulf area, as well as in other regions of the world.

The opening of Indian festival in the USSR was one of the most important results of the Moscow visit, noted Rajiv Gandhi. The prime minister said that he and his party had been greatly impressed by the warmth, cordiality and enthusiasm with which the Soviet people had met and acclaimed the Indian festival.

Yakovlev Receives Indian Media Minister

LD092204 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Jul 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Yakovlev today received Panja, Indian minister of state for information and broadcasting.

In a warm and friendly conversation, questions of Soviet-Indian cooperation in the spheres of information, film, radio, and television, the struggle for the establishment of a just information order in the world, and the safeguarding of the legitimate interests of the developing countries in the sphere of information were discussed.

The Indian side expressed profound satisfaction at the successful start of the Festival of India in the USSR.

RAMADAN PRAISES RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION

JN021727 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jul (INA) Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, has praised the developing relations between Iraq and the USSR.

In a statement to the INA correspondent, Ramadan expressed satisfaction with his current visit to the USSR in 1985 and meeting with Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev had contributed to strengthening the developing relations between Iraq and the USSR. That visit, he added, opened new vistas for cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Regarding the topics discussed during his meeting here today with Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Ramadan said there was a general review of the agreements carried out so far by the two countries and the scope of bilateral relations in the economic and technical fields in order to strengthen and expand these relations.

Talks Conclude

JN031819 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 3 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 3 Jul (INA) -- The Iraqi-Soviet talks to promote relations between the two countries in the economic, technical, and scientific fields concluded here today. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, led the Iraqi side to the talks, while Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, led the Soviet side. During their talks, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with their progress based on the principles of joint cooperation in all fields. They also expressed the desire to open new channels to further promote relations of friendship and cooperation in the interests of the two countries' peoples.

The two sides also referred to the prospects for large-scale cooperation after the recent summit between President Saddam Husayn and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

At the beginning of the talks, the Iraqi first deputy prime minister spoke about the Iranian regime's continued aggression against Iraq and its indifference to principles of peace and the will of the international community. He said that the Iranian regime has escalated its aggression against and threats to the Arab states in the Arab Gulf region. He added that the Iranian regime's objective is to expand the war and endanger the region. Ramadan stressed the Iraqi Armed Forces' ability to defend Iraq and crush the Iranian aggressors, pointing to the recent battles in which the Iranian offensives were crushed. He reiterated Iraq's peaceful policy and willingness to end the war with Iran through an honorable, just, and comprehensive solution.

The Iraqi side to the talks comprised Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim, Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs, a number of Iraqi officials, and the Iraqi ambassador to the USSR. The Soviet side included Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov, Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and a number of Soviet officials.

Minutes Signed

JN031928 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1914 GMT 3 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 3 Jul (INA) -- Iraq and the USSR signed the joint minutes for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation at the end of the meetings of the Soviet-Iraqi joint committee here today.

The minutes stipulate that the Soviet institutions are carrying out several developmental projects in Iraq and that the Iraqi and Soviet oil institutions are cooperating on a large oil project in Iraq.

'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Jalabi, oil minister and head of the Iraqi side to the committee meetings, signed the minutes for the Iraqi side, while Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, signed for the Soviet side.

Kamentsev Praises Relations

JN041135 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 4 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 4 Jul (INA) -- Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has praised his country's relations with Iraq and described his talks with Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, as fruitful and constructive. In a statement to the INA correspondent here today, Kamentsev said emphasis during the talks, which concluded yesterday, was put on the need to continuously promote bilateral cooperation in all fields and on stable bases.

The USSR official said Iraq and the Soviet Union are working in the international arena to consolidate the bases of world security and peace and to establish stability and a just peace in the region.

Speaking about the Iraq-Iran war, Kamentsev reiterated his country's firm stand on this issue and its efforts and great concern for seeking a swift end to this war and a peaceful solution to the conflict between Iraq and Iran. He also affirmed that the USSR seeks to ward off dangers from Arab Gulf countries and is exerting ceaseless efforts with all means to halt the Iraq-Iran war, achieve withdrawal to international borders, and settle the conflict through political means.

Ramadan on 'Frank' Talks

PM061213 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "High Appraisal"]

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jul -- Iraq is satisfied with the development of cooperation with the Soviet Union and is trying to strengthen and expand it further in the interests of the two friendly countries' peoples, Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister of Iraq, said here to INA.

He stressed that his recent talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow were frank and constructive. They discussed the prospects of developing long-term cooperation and also the possibility of broadening activity by Soviet organizations in the implementation of many economic projects in Iraq.

The Soviet Union, T.Y. Ramadan said, has confirmed the need for a complete, just settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict. He noted in conclusion that his official visit to Moscow had brought positive results which reflect the depth of friendly ties between Iraq and the USSR and their general desire to develop and strengthen these relations.

Kamentsev Sees Off Ramadan

LD041406 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 4 Jul 87

[Text] Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister, who was in Moscow as a guest of the Soviet Government, today left for home. At the airport he was seen off by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Kamentsev and other officials. The send-off party included Iraq's ambassador to the USSR Al-Faysal.

DRA'S LA'EQ ANNOUNCES CEASE-FIRE EXTENSION

LD121245 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] New Delhi July 12 TASS -- "The national reconciliation policy, the implementation of which the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) began in January this year, has aroused a broad response and has met with support", Solayman La'eq, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, has said at a press conference here.

"Taking this into account, the Afghan Government decided to extend for another six months the unilateral ceasefire which expires next week, with the exception of some extremist groups, which are being armed and incited by the United States, other opposition groups and forces did not violate the ceasefire", the minister emphasized.

He pointed out that since the middle of January armed groups with a membership of 23,000 had refused to continue counter-revolutionary activities and had joined the national reconciliation process.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION VISITS SYRIA

PM271115 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Guests of Syria"]

[Text] Damascus, 18 Jun -- The visiting group of Soviet parliamentarians headed by A.F. Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has taken part in the work of a plenary session of the Syrian Arab Republic [SAR] People's Council (parliament).

After opening the session, M. al-Zu'bi, speaker of the People's Council, noted in his welcoming address that the Soviet parliamentarians' visit to Syria confirms with new force the strengthening links of friendship between our countries and peoples.

The People's Council deputies who spoke subsequently underlined the importance of comprehensively broadening mutually advantageous Soviet-Syrian cooperation in all spheres and expressed their ardent support for the Soviet Union's peace initiatives.

The head of the group of Soviet parliamentarians conveyed cordial greetings to the Syrian parliamentarians from USSR Supreme Soviet deputies. He stressed that of the most acute problems of today the main one is that of preventing a nuclear catastrophe. Mankind has a choice: supercharging tension in conditions of an accumulation of weapons stockpiles which threaten all civilization with destruction or a constructive search for mutually acceptable accords which would open the way to creating a democratic, nonviolent world based on respect for the peoples' right to live in conditions of free development.

We sense the mood of people on all continents and in all countries in favor of peace, their growing desire to achieve a real move toward military detente and the ending of the arms race. The Soviet Union rates highly Syria's contribution, as an active member of the Nonaligned Movement, to improving the international situation.

The recent visit to Moscow by President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'ith Party, once again vividly and authoritatively confirmed our countries unity in the endeavor to achieve these goals, the head of the group of Soviet parliamentarians continued. Remarking on this feature of our relations, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev correctly said: "The foundation of our multifaceted cooperation is the community of interests on the main issues of the day."

In behalf of the main issue -- the survival of mankind -- the Soviet Union is consistently and persistently advancing new peace initiatives. The program for the gradual elimination of all nuclear armaments and other means of mass destruction, the moratorium on nuclear explosions, the proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe, and the concept of creating a comprehensive system of international peace and security -- all these are not propagandist statements but a real base on which it is possible to build the edifice of a nuclear-free world.

Recently the socialist states took another important step toward improving the climate in the international arena by adopting the document "on the Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Pact States." This document underlines the fact that our military doctrine is of a defensive nature and stems from the necessity to maintain the equilibrium of military forces at the lowest possible level and the advisability of reducing military potentials to levels of sufficiency necessary for defense. Naturally, this does not mean that the allied Warsaw Pact states' armed forces will let themselves be taken unawares. If they are in fact attacked, they will deal a crushing repulse to any aggressor.

Our principle is clear and just: We do not claim greater security, but we do not agree to less. This applies fully to our friends also.

It is also impossible to achieve a shift toward universal peace in conditions where explosions are rumbling in one region of the globe or other, where blood is being shed, where the fundamental rights of man and even of whole peoples to life and freedom are being openly flouted. Profound alarm is evoked by the conflict in the Near East which has dragged on over many decades. There is no end to Israel's occupation of Arab lands and every day sees the sufferings of the Arabs, especially those of the Palestinian people deprived of a homeland, multiply. Responsibility for its situation lies jointly with the Israeli ruling circles and Washington, which would like to create in this area a bridgehead for the realization of its hegemonist plans. However, the dreams of imposing its will on the Arab peoples are no more than a mirage which disappears as one approaches it. How many times has it been announced that peace U.S.-style will break out any day now in this region. However, it all in fact ends in new spirals of tension and outbreaks of war and violence.

The Soviet Union wholly supports the just struggle of the Arab peoples, who do not want to reconcile themselves to the occupation of their territory and the violation of their inalienable national rights. Syria stands in the front ranks of the Arab national liberation movement, firmly opposing the attempts to impose anti-Arab versions of a settlement. A just and lasting peace in the Near East can only be established if Israeli troops are withdrawn from all occupied Arab territories. The legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination, including the right to form their own state, must be recognized, and all states in the region must be granted the opportunity to live in conditions of peace, within secure and recognized borders.

Now, when the futility and shortsightedness of the U.S.-Israeli plans is becoming increasingly clear, it is important to concentrate efforts on directing the search for peace along its only acceptable course -- the convening of an international conference under UN auspices with the equal participation of all interested parties, including the PLO. Moreover this conference must really focus the collective efforts and be a plenipotentiary organ, and not merely an "umbrella" for the policy of separate ideas.

On 18 June SAR Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received the group of deputies. Addressing the Soviet parliamentarians, the Syrian leader stressed that Syria is following with great interest and attention the Soviet Union's foreign policy steps and its untiring fight for disarmament. Success for the Soviet peace proposals and constructive initiatives, he said, would mean mankind's salvation from the nuclear nightmare and the establishment of lasting peace and security on the planet.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam noted the dynamic development of Soviet-Syrian relations in various spheres on the basis of the treaty on friendship and cooperation between the two states signed in Moscow in 1980.

He expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet Government and to the people of the Land of the Soviets for supporting the just cause of the Syrian and other Arab peoples.

During the conversation both sides stressed the necessity for convening an international conference on the Near East to elaborate an all-embracing Near East settlement. The SAR vice president noted in this connection U.S. and Israeli attempts to frustrate preparations for such a conference under UN auspices. He condemned the U.S. neoglobalist policy in the Near East and in other areas of the planet.

'Abdallah al-Ahmar, deputy secretary general of the Ba'th Party, indicated the coincidence of the Soviet and Syrian viewpoints on the ways to overcome tension in the Near East region. Welcoming the Soviet parliamentarians, he underlined Syria's desire for a peaceful settlement of the conflict situation in the region.

I was fortunate, he said, to attend the 27th CPSU Congress, which proposed a comprehensive program of struggle for peace. Our party and our country and people support this noble struggle which meets the vital expectations of all mankind.

'Abdallah al-Ahmar rated highly the level of interparty relations achieved between the Ba'th Party and the CPSU.

A.S. Dzaskhov, USSR ambassador to the SAR, took part in the meetings with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and 'Abdallah al-Ahmar.

The speaker of the SAR People's Council yesterday gave a banquet in honor of the Soviet guests. The country's party and state leaders, ministers, and representatives of the public attended it.

On the same day A.F. Ryuytel visited the Central Damascus H. al-Asad Library and went on a tour of the city sights.

A member of the group of Soviet deputies, T.T. Salakhov, had a conversation at the Syrian Union of Fine Arts Workers. The deputy held talks with the Syrian Minister of Culture and National Guidance N. al-Attar at which the status of the cultural links between the two countries was examined. Both sides expressed profound satisfaction with the course of cultural cooperation. The sides expressed the wish for the comprehensive development and expansion of cultural contacts between the Soviet Union and the SAR.

S.A. Losev, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and general director of TASS, signed an agreement with A. al-Khuli, general director of the Tishrin publishing house, on granting that newspaper access to TASS information.

LATE REPORTS: SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

TA131111 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1050 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Report by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami -- live]

[Excerpt] Well, the Soviet consular delegation that has been talked about so much arrived in Israel last night. There are six [as heard] delegation members: two members of the Consular Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, a member of the Middle East branch, a secretary, and a chauffeur. They are in Tel Aviv under the patronage of the Finnish Embassy, which represents the interests of the Soviet Union in Israel.

Aside from the confirmation we received from the Foreign Ministry about the fact of the delegation's arrival last night, this delegation has not yet made any contact with the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry for the purpose of making technical arrangements for help in its tasks. Incidentally, the Finnish ambassador is presently in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, and the first contacts may be under way at this very moment. [passage omitted]

Delegation Members, Agenda

TA131148 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1130 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel live]

[Text] The Soviet consular delegation, which consists of eight members, is headed by Plikhin and Antipov, deputies to be head of the Foreign Ministry Consular Administration in Moscow, and includes another representative of the Middle Eastern Countries Department and a small logistical backup team which includes a secretary, a driver, and security personnel.

The group secretly arrived in Israel last night. The time of its arrival was kept secret by both the Finnish Embassy and the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, apparently to avoid crowds and demonstrations at Ben-Gurion Airport. Officially, the delegation came here to discuss consular rather than political matters: to examine Soviet property in Israel and deal with the affairs of Soviet citizens living here.

It is unclear how long the Soviet team will stay here; it may stay for a long time. The members of the delegation are scheduled to hold their first meeting at the Foreign Ministry Claims Division in Jerusalem. Foreign Ministry officials said today that at this point there are no plans for the members of the delegation to hold meetings other than with medium-level officials, and that this consular delegation is no substitute for a real dialogue between Jerusalem and Moscow on bilateral issues.

COMMISSION ISSUES STATEMENT ON MACHEL CRASH

LD101614 Moscow TASS in English 1542 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 10 TASS -- The Soviet commission that investigated the circumstances and causes of the TU-134 aircraft catastrophe in South Africa on October 19, 1986, has released the following statement:

According to news agencies, South African authorities have published a report on the causes of the catastrophe of the TU-134 aircraft which killed Mozambican President Samora Machel.

The report alleges that South Africa, on whose territory the catastrophe took place on October 19, 1986, bears no responsibility for the loss of the aircraft and people. Meantime, awkward attempts are being made to explain the causes of the air accident by erroneous actions of the Soviet crew.

Earlier, South Africa named as causes of the catastrophe a sabotage on board, alcoholic intoxication of the crew and imperfection of the aircraft and its systems. However, all these fabrications were refuted by specialists of the tripartite commission and the South African authorities had to retract.

Thus, by coming up with a new cause for the catastrophe, Pretoria makes another political manoeuvre to mislead the public opinion and conceal its reluctance to establish truth.

As Soviet specialists pointed out repeatedly, no crew error can explain why the aircraft had veered off the set course towards South Africa and followed signals from a ground radio beacon. South Africa, as is known, does not dispute this fact, but evades its objective investigation on the tripartite basis (South Africa, Mozambique, the Soviet Union).

The investigation conducted in the USSR confirms the fact that the aircraft had flown towards the dummy beacon situated in the mountains, west of Maputo. The relevant materials were handed over to South Africa, according to ICAO [International Civil Aviation Organization] procedure.

In this context, the report published by South Africa can not be accepted as an objective document on the investigation into the air catastrophe.

In connection with South Africa's unobjective approach to the analysis of the available data and reluctance to cooperate with the countries concerned, the Soviet Commission will forward to ICAO its own account containing objective materials and findings of the investigation.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR CONGO, ZAIRE

LD080915 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS -- Today a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet departed from Moscow for the People's Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Zaire on official visits. It is led by Aleksandr Mokuanu, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

LIGACHEV, HUNGARY'S KADAR DISCUSS PLENUM, RELATIONS

LD101644 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1500 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Budapest, 10 Jul (TASS) -- A meeting took place in Budapest today between Yegor Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, who was in the Hungarian People's Republic on vacation, and Janos Kadar, MSZMP general secretary.

In their conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of comradeship and mutual solidarity, Yegor Ligachev gave information about the results of the CPSU Central Committee June 1987 Plenum. The plenum was of fundamental importance in the speeding up of the restructuring of the economy, the deepening of democracy, and the renewal of all aspects of the life of Soviet society.

Janos Kadar declared the MSZMP's support for the course of deep and far-reaching socioeconomic reforms in the USSR and for the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and told of the efforts of the Hungarian Communists to put into practice the program of economic and social development adopted by the MSZMP Central Committee July 1987 Plenum.

Views were exchanged on certain questions of Soviet-Hungarian relations, and also on a number of international problems.

Taking part in the conversation was Boris Stukalin, Soviet ambassador to Hungary.

Later today, Yegor Ligachev had a friendly talk with Gyorgy Lazar, MSZMP deputy general secretary.

SLYUNKOV, TALYZIN TALKS WITH PZPR VISITORS NOTED

PM071047 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A PZPR delegation headed by M. Wozniak, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, visited Moscow 6 July in accordance with the plan for ties between the CPSU and the PZPR.

The delegation had conversations with N.N. Slyunkov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the USSR Gosplan.

The Polish comrades were briefed on the results of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum and familiarized with the course of restructuring the economic mechanism and the economic management structure in the USSR and the CPSU's experience in the practical implementation of measures to enhance the role of labor collectives in the management of production. The delegation visited Moscow's "Stankostroitelnyy zavod imeni Sergo Ordzhonikidze" production association.

J. Smolinski, Polish charge d'affaires in the USSR, participated in the conversations.

YAKOVLEV, MEDVEDEV GREET JARUZELSKI ON STOPOVER

LDO40115 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Jul 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] On his way from Japan Comrade Jaruzelski today made a brief stopover in Moscow. Comrades Czyrek, Orzechowski, and Gwiazda arrived with him.

At the airport, Wojciech Jaruzelski and the Polish comrades accompanying him were welcomed and seen off by Comrades Yakovlev, Medvedev, and other officials.

PRAVDA CITES CEAUSESCU CABLES TO SOVIET LEADERS

PM101310 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jul 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "From on Board the Plane"]

[Text] N. Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of Romania, sent a telegram to M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, from on board the plane. It says:

"In flying over the Soviet Union's territory, I wish to convey to you warm, comradely greetings and best wishes for health and personal happiness, as well as great new achievements for the Soviet people in the country's socioeconomic development and the building of socialism and communism. It will take this opportunity to express the conviction that in the spirit of the accords reached in the course of our recent friendly meeting in Bucharest, the good relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties and countries will develop steadily in various spheres in the interests of the Romanian and Soviet peoples and the common cause of socialism, cooperation, and peace throughout the world."

N. Ceausescu sent a telegram from on board the plane to A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. It says:

"In flying over the Soviet Union's territory, I wish to convey to you warm, comradely greetings and best wishes for health and personal happiness, as well as great new achievements for the Soviet people in the country's socioeconomic development and the building of socialism and communism. I will take this opportunity to express the conviction that in the spirit of the accords reached in the course of the recent Romanian-Soviet friendly meeting in Bucharest, the good relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties and countries will develop steadily in various spheres in the interests of Romanian and Soviet peoples and the common cause of socialism, cooperation, and peace throughout the world."

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON RYZHKOV'S AUSTRIA VISIT

PRAVDA Reports Dinner Speech

PM091119 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

TASS report under the general heading "In A Friendly Atmosphere"; speech by Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at a dinner in Vienna given in his honor by Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky.

[Text] 8 Jul -- We have been touched by the warm reception and attention that we received from the moment we arrived on Austrian soil, and also the friendly speech of the federal chancellor. We see this as an expression of Austria's kind attitude toward the Soviet Union and our people.

This visit arouses good feelings among us. And not least because many things link our countries and our peoples. Much has been done to prepare the soil on which the tree of our goodneighborliness grows today.

The Soviet Union has always been on the side of the independent Austrian Republic. It was not by chance that in the days of March 1938, when Austria was invaded by Hitlerite Germany, the USSR resolutely branded the Anschluss as an act of aggression.

During the grave days of World War II, when our people were upholding their freedom and independence, it was precisely from Moscow that the statement resounded about the wish of the allies in the anti-Hitlerite coalition "to see the restoration of a free and independent Austria."

We recall the stirring words of Karl Renner, the first postwar chancellor of the Austrian Republic. In 1945, at a meeting to mark the unveiling of a memorial to Soviet servicemen in Vienna, he said: "The Soviet soldiers brought us not only liberation from the chains of slavery, but also made possible the rebirth of our state, and gave our people the right to call themselves Austrians."

Thanks to the joint efforts of the Soviet Union and Austria, a way was opened up for signing a state treaty on the restoration of independent and democratic Austria in 1955 and the foundation was laid for its permanent neutrality. Incidentally, concluding this accord was an instructive example of the postwar interaction of the great powers on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and was a considerable step along the way toward "peaceful settlement in Europe." The biting winds of the "cold war" collided with a stream of reviving warm air for the first time. A source of stability formed in the center of Europe and its importance is still even now being revealed.

The subsequent decades became, as we believe, a period of the very favorable development of good relations between the Soviet Union and Austria and of the formation and strengthening of our cooperation, resting on the stable foundation of growing mutual trust, respect, and mutual benefit.

We are convinced that in the present situation there are considerable resources for the further deepening and development of Soviet-Austrian cooperation, and the enrichment of it with many new facets.

This affects not least of all economic ties, whose benefits became considerable long ago. In 10 years trade turnover has trebled. We are supplying natural gas to you according to an agreement calculated for a quarter of a century, and, evidently, soon our accord on that score will pass the year 2000. [i, vidimo, skoro nasha dogovorennost na etot schet pereshagnet za dvukhtysyachnyy god] An exchange of electric power advantageous to both sides not involving foreign currency has been arranged. We are placing major long-term orders in Austria for metal products, machines, and vessels. Our experienced business partner, the "Voest-Alpine" firm, has built a good metallurgical factory in Belorussia, the second stage of which is being built now, and after that, perhaps, there will be a new order, too.

There are other interesting possibilities as well. They include: An expansion of production and scientific and technical cooperation, setting up joint enterprises, and cooperation in the markets of third countries.

It is particularly important that our cooperation is developing on the basis of full equitability of the two sides and real mutual advantage. The fact that Soviet orders are providing work for many tens of thousands of Austrians can only gladden us.

There are good prospects, we believe, for exchanges in the sphere of culture and art, where, it can be said, the riches of both our countries are inexhaustible and a certain amount of experience has already been accumulated.

Without question much can also be done in the sphere that is customarily called humanitarian -- in the sense of easing contacts between people, families, and public organizations of various kinds. I should like to recall that a year ago in Berne the 35 participant states of the All-European Conference drew up a good, constructive draft on this subject; it was not formally passed for a reason which everyone knows about and which has nothing to do with the opinion of the European countries. Considering the draft to be useful, the Soviet Union declared its willingness to be guided in practice by its provisions in its bilateral relations with states that wish to reach an accord with us on this. Naturally, this fully applies to Austria, too.

And, of course, there are quite a few possibilities for interaction between our states in the foreign policy sphere -- for the sake of reducing the threat of war, easing tension, and strengthening peace. In fact, the very development of peaceful, mutually beneficial ties between the USSR and Austria is of use not only to our peoples, but also to Europe as a whole. All this is the constituent cells of the peaceful tissue that is capable of binding together the body of Europe. It is the component parts of the material and spiritual foundation for the ever-strengthening peaceful cooperation between the inhabitants of our continent. That is now particularly important.

Today, peace is at a crossroads. A truly fateful boundary has been reached in the accumulation of the means of mass destruction and the whipping-up of feelings of mutual distrust, fear, and hostility between states. The need to rid man of the threat hanging over him outweighs all other objectives, all other interests -- national, group, and other -- today. Realizing this, the Soviet Union offered the world community, in the speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of 15 January last year, a concrete and realistic program for eliminating, by the end -- not so far off now -- of the present century, all arsenals of nuclear weapons and other kinds of weapons for the mass destruction of people, and for radically reducing conventional weapons and armed forces.

The world's peoples and the governments of many countries have given their backing to this vast program. The Reykjavik meeting between the leaders of the USSR and the United States convincingly demonstrated that it is perfectly possible to achieve the stated objectives. Yet the outcome of the meeting and what has occurred after it show how active are the forces resisting the curtailment of the arms race, and how much still has to be done if the plan drafted in Reykjavik is to be put into effect.

In the course of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, the outlines of an agreement to rid Europe of both sides' medium-range nuclear missiles and operational and tactical missiles now seem to be taking on a real shape. Concluding such an agreement would be the first effective step along the road toward eliminating nuclear weapons, and so it would be of historic importance. We shall strive persistently to see that the drawing-up of an agreement is successfully carried through on a basis that is acceptable to both sides. The main thing now is that NATO should stop putting obstacles in the way of agreement.

In connection with the prospect to eliminate medium and shorter range nuclear missiles in Europe, in the West they started telling us increasingly more often about the necessity of resolving also the problem of the equitable reduction of conventional weapons. But our side keeps the door wide open for this. As long as a year ago in Budapest the Soviet Union and its allies brought to the fore specific proposals concerning radical reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces in Europe.

We are prepared to talk about such a reduction, which will not damage anybody's security and which will be advantageous for all. We are persistently striving for the opening of businesslike talks about the essence of this issue, but we have still not heard an articulate positive answer from the Western countries. The recent communique of the NATO council was, in our view, difficult to regard as such an answer.

In connection with this I would like to stress that although the USSR is not against discussing this problem between the participants of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, it is firmly convinced in the expediency of the all-European conference, too -- the neutral and nonaligned countries, including, of course, Austria. Of course, we raise this issue not because we consider the reduction of armaments of these very countries to be such a topical matter but because we believe in the serious interest of their peoples and governments in securing lasting peace and security in Europe.

Summing up our assessment of the situation that has come about one could say briefly: Humanity is threatened with unprecedented danger, but real opportunities are also opening up before it for eliminating this danger and for reliably ensuring a peaceful life for the peoples. In these circumstances, the responsibility borne by each state and each people is greater than ever before.

Our country and its leadership fully recognize their share of responsibility for the destinies of the world and draw practical conclusions from this in their foreign policy. Committed as it is to the cause of peace and international cooperation, the Soviet Union has put forward a large number of important initiatives in this context. But I shall evidently not be mistaken in saying that today, in the period of restructuring and the general renewal of our socialist society, Soviet foreign policy has also been revitalized. Its enhanced dynamism, flexibility, and constructive nature are being widely noted in the world. And I would like to stress that these characteristics are a natural reflection of the characteristics of our internal development.

The Soviet people are striving for more sensible and just organization of their whole life -- economic, social, political and spiritual -- and for further improvement of their socialist system. The CPSU Central Committee plenum and the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which took place in Moscow at the end of June, marked a new, exceptionally important stage in our movement along this path. And, of course, nobody will be worse off as a result of the fact that we are going to have a better life. On the contrary. As M.S. Gorbachev has stressed, the platform of disarmament, peace, and security submitted by the Soviet Union "meets the interests of our people and society at the new stage of their socialist development. Moreover, this platform meets the interests of all other countries and peoples and, by virtue of this, merits trust."

We are firmly convinced that in the nuclear and space age it would be a dangerous self-deception to count on strengthening one's own security at the expense of the security interests of other states or to rely in this regard on "nuclear deterrence," which is inevitably linked to the accumulation of deadly weapons and growth in the risk of a world nuclear catastrophe. It is precisely for this reason that the 27th CPSU Congress came out in favor of creating a comprehensive system of international security that embraces the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres and is aimed at making peaceful coexistence the supreme universal principle of interstate relations.

For our part, we view with sincere respect the positive role being played today in the international arena by peace-loving, neutral Austria, the hospitable host of the pan-European Vienna meeting, many UN institutions and other highly important international forums. And let me add: We are convinced that Austria's constructive contribution to the development of European dialogue and the amelioration of the European climate can be, and will be, even more weighty.

The Soviet Union's course aimed at goodneighborliness with Austria is a fundamental element in the USSR's foreign policy and one which is not subject to fluctuations dictated by expediency. The results of the first day of our visit permit us to consider that it is proceeding wholly in the spirit of the traditional Soviet-Austrian goodneighborliness and, we hope, will benefit the cause of deepening further and also of strengthening the foundations of European peace.

We are convinced that the good tradition of Soviet-Austrian dialogue at the highest level must be continued. For this reason, I had pleasure today in presenting Federal Chancellor Vranitzky with an invitation from the Soviet Government to pay an official visit to the USSR.

Permit me, in conclusion, to wish the friendly people of Austria peace and prosperity.

From the heart, I wish Federal Chancellor Vranitzky and his wife, the members of the Austrian Government who are here, and all those present good health and success.

May the fruitful, mutually advantageous cooperation between our countries, which is based on mutual respect, develop steadfastly.

Meets With Waldheim

LD091233 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1200 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Vienna, 9 Jul (TASS) -- TASS special correspondents -- N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, paid a visit to K. Waldheim, federal president of Austria.

During their conversation issues of Soviet-Austrian relations, as well as some aspects of the present-day international situation were discussed.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the developing cooperation between the USSR and Austria in a wide range of fields and stated the closeness of their opinions on a number of topical international issues, including those pertaining to the United Nations' activities.

Also today, the Austrian president gave a luncheon in honor of the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON WEIZSAECKER'S VISIT

Meets With Youth Representatives

PM081325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting With Young People"]

[Text] On 7 July FRG Federal President R. von Weizsaecker had a meeting with representatives of Soviet youth -- workers of Moscow's Ordzhonikidze Machine Tool Building Plant, scientific employees, students, and senior graders. It took place in Ostankino Television Center.

More on Moscow News Conference

PM101013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Weizsaecker's Press Conference"]

[Text] On 8 July at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center FRG Federal President R. von Weizsaecker held a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists.

The aim of the visit, he said, was to open a new chapter in the history of relations between the two countries, place them on a broad long-term basis, and mark a starting point that will be followed by accords and concrete cooperation. From R. von Weizsaecker's viewpoint, the visit has accomplished this task, although, by his own admission, it was also not easy. The federal president noted that the talks on both sides were frank [otkrovennoy] and honest. Concerning security questions, the president said that the conversations had demonstrated unity of views on the fact that disarmament is possible, attainable, and acutely necessary in all spheres.

We spoke about cooperation in the sphere of science, education, and cadre training, he noted. These are topics where there is a readiness to cooperate but where at the same time the volume of cooperation achieved is not great. It must also be a question of exchange in the spiritual and humanitarian spheres, which are, in R. von Weizsaecker's opinion, the bridge for understanding another country's culture. It is also necessary to tackle more vigorously and seriously questions of training in management and economic administration.

In the economic sphere the visitor thinks that obstacles still exist. We must continue to take measures objectively aimed at strengthening the preconditions for cooperation. Of course, each country determines its reforms itself. But cooperation with the outside world can support them in a useful way. The president noted the lively exchange between the FRG and the USSR in the sphere of culture. Mutual interest in literature, the press, and cinema, he said, has increased considerably. There is a genuine readiness on both sides to continue contacts at all levels.

Answering journalists' questions, the president, in particular, stated that the holding in Moscow on the USSR's initiative of an international conference on humanitarian questions would have a positive impact on relations between West and East.

H.-D. Genscher, deputy federal chancellor and FRG foreign minister, took part in the press conference.

Spokesman Comments on Visit

DW101020 Hamburg BILD in German 10 Jul 87 p 10

[Interview with Kremlin Deputy Spokesman Yuriy Grititskikh -- title and name as published -- by correspondent Wolfgang Kenntemich; date and place not given]

[Text] BILD: How does the Soviet leadership assess Weizsaecker's visit?

Grititskikh: As a very useful thing. The talks were necessary because there are opportunities to improve relations further. Possibilities for talks with the Federal Government are better now.

BILD: What role will the FRG play?

Grititskikh: One stemming from the weight it carries in NATO as the second strongest alliance country and as the deployment country of most medium-range nuclear weapons, particularly the Pershing-2 weapons.

The Federal Government can render a significant and constructive contribution to getting disarmament moving. An agreement on a double zero solution for medium-range missiles would be a breakthrough.

However, the problem of the Pershing-1A missiles remains an obstacle.

BILD: What do you mean exactly?

Grimitskikh: We are asking the Federal Government once more to seriously consider its position and to maintain a constructive attitude.

The Americans must include the 72 Pershing-1A missiles in the negotiations. There is no other way! Now is the hour of truth. We will see who was honest about the zero solution and who was just evasive.

Kohl Notes Ties, Visit

LD101254 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Bonn July 10 TASS — The West German Government expresses readiness to cooperate with the Soviet Union on a long-term basis in the belief that relations between the FRG and the USSR are of pivotal importance, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl told a press conference here today. He highly appraised the results of the negotiations of West German President Richard von Weizsaecker during his official visit to the Soviet Union. The visit, the chancellor pointed out, is a landmark on the way to deepening understanding between the two countries. The head of the Bonn government favoured reaching an understanding on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles in Europe this year. At the same time he reaffirmed that Bonn was in no mood to renounce West German missiles Pershing-1A with U.S. nuclear warheads. Such a position is known to interfere with the progress in nuclear disarmament in Europe.

Arrives in Novosibirsk

LD102026 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Novosibirsk July 10 TASS — The federal president of the FRG Richard von Weizsaecker arrived here today. At the airport he was welcomed by the chairman of the Novosibirsk Regional Executive Committee Vladimir Bokov and other officials of the region and the city. A dinner was held in honour of the guest. Richard von Weizsaecker and Vladimir Bokov exchanged speeches.

Welcoming the distinguished guest, Vladimir Bokov stressed that Siberians show much interest in the culture and art, science and economy of the FRG. Scientists, specialists and representatives of the public from the FRG come to the scientific institutions of the local academic centre every year. In turn, Siberian scientists annually travel to the FRG to conduct research and deliver lectures.

Siberia evokes associations of wide expanses and cold winters as well as of rich natural deposits and sources of energy, Richard von Weizsaecker said in his reply speech. West Siberian gas is used in the energy supply of the FRG and other European countries.

Novosibirsk generated impulses for Siberia's development, he said further. But we also note with much interest that people in Siberia are increasingly becoming aware of the fact that nature's riches are not unlimited, that it is necessary to use them with a sense of responsibility to the coming generations and nature itself. The academic centre, the distinguished guest said further, is famous not only for the results of research which can be used in practice for the good of Siberia's development. It has also generated decisive impulses for the great plans of your country's economic reorganisation. We are convinced that the policy of reforms that you have started will benefit Soviet citizens and also create favourable preconditions for extensive cooperation between our countries.

Genscher Welcomes 'Openness'

LD101619 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Bonn July 10 TASS — FRG Minister for Foreign Affairs Hans-Dietrich Genscher gave an interview to the radio station Deutschlandfunk, in which he touched upon questions pertaining to Soviet-West German relations in connection with the visit to the USSR of FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker.

Both sides, Genscher said, expressed in the course of the joint appraisal of the talks held in Moscow their wish for a fundamental improvement of relations. This, as it seems to me, is the main outcome of the current visit. Both governments are looking into the future. They have a stake in a fundamental improvement of Soviet-West German relations. This is also of much significance for the situation in Europe as a whole. As seen from the historical experience, Soviet-West German relations have both, in positive and negative terms, a decisive impact on the situation all over Europe. [sentence as received]

The FRG minister has refuted the fabrications, which were issued in the FRG during the visit of Richard von Weizsaecker and distorted the essence of the relations between the two countries. Neither the Federal Government nor the Federal President have taken part in these inventions, he said. We are pursuing an absolutely realistic policy, realizing within its framework the chances cropping up for our relations on the basis of the policy of Perestroika (reorganization) and glasnost (openness) pursued in the Soviet Union. Since the Soviet Union developing openness in the country and turning its face to foreign countries is, indisputably, a far better partner to us not only in economic, technological and cultural cooperation, but also in resolving the important tasks confronting humanity in the field of disarmament, prevention of war and ensuring the natural fundamentals of life. We have reached, at last, a limit when only East-West cooperation can guarantee humanity's survival. To this end it is necessary to use the new Soviet policy. Therefore I can say with good reason that this policy of "open doors" also meets the West's interests.

DPA Cites Omission

LD122300 Hamburg DPA in German 2013 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Moscow, 12 Jul (DPA) — Soviet television today broadcast a 45-minute discussion between President Richard von Weizsaecker and Soviet young people. [passage omitted]

Not fully broadcast was a passage in which Von Weizsaecker advocated more individual travel between East and West. "The exchange of delegations is not adequate. Probably everyone here agrees on that," one girl student agreed. This statement was missing from the broadcast.

U.S., USSR AMBASSADORS HOLD W. BERLIN TALKS

LD072006 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1943 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Berlin (West), 7 Jul (TASS/ADN) [dateline as received] -- Vyacheslav Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR, today visited Richard Burt, U.S. ambassador to the FRG, in Berlin (West) in his capacity as head of the U.S. military administration in the city. During their talk, which took place in a businesslike atmosphere, questions of mutual interest were discussed.

FALIN DESCRIBES GORBACHEV'S OPPONENTS, SKEPTICS

LD081102 Hamburg DPA in German 0954 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 8 Jul (DPA) -- Three groups in the Soviet Union are fighting against the new course of General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev: the foot-draggers, the skeptics and the orthodox. In this division, as Valentin Falin, head of the NOVOSTI news agency and former ambassador in Bonn, explained to German journalists in Moscow today, the second group is numerically the largest.

Falin explained that the skeptics are the many citizens who have been disappointed earlier by promises and now want to wait and see. The foot-draggers group is "very small." Hiding in it are previously highly privileged functionaries who lived excellently in the earlier era of indifference and who are now worried about their jobs. Among these are the "guardians of the instructions." By this Falin means the officials who distribute raw materials to factories throughout the country.

The orthodox dogmatists are few but they have "loud voices." They already fear the victory of the bourgeoisie and regard "glasnost" (openness) and "perestroika" (restructuring) as backward steps. The loud ones among them see themselves as "guardians of the truth."

General Yuriy Lebedev, who is responsible in the General Staff for the Geneva negotiations, made clear who is not among Gorbachev's opponents. "We are raising no resistance," he said.

SHIPPING OFFICIALS EXPRESS INTEREST IN GREEK LINKS

NC121228 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1100 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] Soviet shipping officials have expressed their intention to consider the possibilities for establishing shipping enterprises in the Soviet Union in cooperation with Greek shipowners. The Soviet shipping officials who have visited our country met with representatives of Greek shipping enterprises and with Greek shipowners.

MASOL REPLACES AILING LYASHKO AS UKRAINE CHAIRMAN

LD101223 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] A session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet opened in Kiev today. The deputies satisfied the request of Comrade Lyashko, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic, that he be released from that post, in connection with his worsening state of health. Deputy Masol has been elected chairman of the Ukraine SSR Council of Ministers. Previously, he was working as first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic's State Planning Committee. Now the deputies are discussing the work of the soviets of people's deputies in Donetsk and Ternopol oblasts, concerning an expansion in the participation of labor collectives and of the population in the provision of amenities in towns and villages.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Ukraine Communist Party Central Committee, is taking part in the work of the session.

KURSK GORKOM DISMISSES FIRST SECRETARY

PM101547 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Jul 87 Second Edition p 2

[Own correspondent Ye. Kotyayev article: "End of Unfettered Independence" under rubric "Party Life: Request for Answers"]

[Excerpts] Kursk -- Readers have been telephoning the editorial office for several days now. What has happened in Kursk? The information has been published that the first secretary of the gorkom has been dismissed from the party and released from his duties as first secretary of at an obkom plenum. How and why could such a thing have happened? We publish an article by our correspondent:

The incident is out of the ordinary. You do not immediately know how to put it. A. Buvalin, first secretary of the Kursk Gorkom, has been dismissed from the party for organizing the listening in on (or tapping, as we Russians would say) of telephone conversations by L. Ishmayeva, head of the gorkom's general department. Why did he need to do this?

Here is an extract from A. Buvalin's explanatory note:

"An unhealthy atmosphere of suspicion has recently developed in the gorkom apparatus due to the fact that secret or still unpublished information has begun to leak out from bureau sessions and meetings with secretaries. All kinds of absurd rumors and conjectures were being spread.... From my own personal observations and consultations with comrades in the gorkom apparatus, I reached the conclusion that the information leak and the unhealthy constructions placed on it could stem from L.M. Ishmayeva, head of the general department."

It follows from this note that, filled with the exclusively noble desire to stop the leak of secret information and improve the atmosphere in the gorkom apparatus, A. Buvalin summoned V. Izotov, head of the city telephone exchange, to his office at the beginning of June. It is hard to imagine the turn of phrase used by one communist leader to propose to another that he flagrantly violate the law. It is only known that he used those very alarming words: divulging secrets. It worked. The head of department's office telephone was tapped. [passage omitted]

It is noteworthy that at first the actual fact of the deed failed to arouse an immediate reaction in the gorkom apparatus. As far as the young workers were concerned, an apparatus rule which they had not actually instituted themselves but which was still highly esteemed -- "Do not judge the man in charge!" -- proved stronger than all moral promptings. Even after their own party meeting, at which a majority of 26 voted in favor of dismissing A. Buvalin from the party, they could scarcely conceal their amazement: Surely this is not how it is always going to be?

Who knows, perhaps this shock may cause a real reassessment of values and the establishment of genuine party relations?

I feel the obkom plenum will also play a purifying role in this. The speeches at this plenum were frank and to the point. It goes without saying, Yu. Isakov, director of a forging and pressing equipment plant, said, that we are also to blame for what has happened. We were all aware that our leader had begun to overdo things but we kept quiet. We felt it would be better to get used to it.

It is a bitter realization, I. Potapov, deputy chairman of the oblast people's control committee, said, that members of the gorkom bureau and secretaries kept quiet and concurred in a matter where silence was wrong. The obkom clearly put off the job of "attending to" [vyrashchivaniye] the gorkom first secretary. I do not think this would have happened if there had been the opportunity for more open, confiding contact. I remember how they introduced the tradition about 3 years ago of inviting people to the obkom secretaries for a comradely chat -- what a good opportunity this was for a frank party discussion! But ordinary everyday tasks evidently got in the way and it was forgotten....

True words. Now it is the time for action.

FURTHER ON CHERNOBYL TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

LD072142 Moscow World Service in English 1510 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Excerpts] [First announcer] An open trial has begun in Chernobyl in the Ukraine of the persons responsible for the accident that took place at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. The case is heard by a panel of judges chaired by a member of the USSR Supreme Court Raymond Brize. [passage omitted]

[Second announcer] Direct damage sustained as a result of the accident alone is put at 2 billion roubles. The accident created problems in supplying the economy with energy. Our commentator Yevgeniy Benyash met with a member of the USSR Supreme Court, Nikolay Arestovich, who at present heads a panel concerned with criminal cases, and asked him to comment on the trial. [passage omitted]

Yevgeniy Benyash began by asking Nikolay Arestovich why the case is heard by the USSR Supreme Court. As a rule the Supreme Court acts as a supervisory body considering appeals and protests against sentences passed by lower courts. The point is, Nikolay Arestovich explained, that the Chernobyl case is exceptional. The implications of the Chernobyl accident went far beyond the borders of this country and caused justified concern.

As far as our society is concerned, the Chernobyl accident exposed the weakness of managerial methods that were employed until recently. It made all the more clear how far members of the bureaucratic system have gone in their complacency and negligence. [paragraph continues]

That is why the supreme judicial body of the USSR assumed the highly responsible task of hearing the case. [passage omitted]

[Second announcer] What measures have been taken with respect to those put on trial so far?

[First announcer] Three of them are in custody and the others have given written pledges not to leave their places of residence.

[Second announcer] Why have those three been put into custody? Was there any reason for being so tough on them?

[First announcer] This was decided by the prosecutor's office during a preliminary investigation.

[Second announcer] Could the court, upon receiving their case, introduce lighter measures against them at this stage?

[First announcer] That is a matter to be decided by the judges. Perhaps they took into account the gravity of the charges against these three people. They may have thought that having remained at large, the defendants could use their personal influence to interfere with court proceedings.

[Second announcer] In July of last year, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party discussed the report of the government commission of enquiry into the causes of the accident. [passage omitted] Can the opinion of such an authoritative body as the Political Bureau of the party's Central Committee influence the court as it performs its duties in establishing the causes of the accident, naming those responsible for it, and defining the degree of their guilt?

[First announcer] Any influence on the court whatever is ruled out. Courts in the USSR are independent and abide by the law alone. In my own experience as a judge, Nikolay Arestovich said, I have often felt pressure from party and government bodies. Very often the press, which wield great influence in this country, has taken unreasonable and hasty action. But Nikolay Arestovich said, I always gave a sentence abiding by the law and my own conscience, and I am sure that my colleagues in Chernobyl will do the same. The national daily PRAVDA, by the way, has carried a report that four citizens in Bashkyria have been pronounced not guilty after criminal suits were filed against them under pressure from the former leadership of this autonomous republic.

[Second announcer] And who will represent the interests of the defendants in court?

[First announcer] Nikolay Arestovich said that it would have been unreasonable to restrict in any way the right of the defendants to be defended at a trial hearing such a complicated case. During the preliminary investigation each of them chose a highly qualified advocate.

[Second announcer] And just exactly how long will the trial in Chernobyl take?

[Male announcer] Raymond Brize said that he expects the trial takes at least 3 weeks, and we will have to wait and see how long it will really take. It is very difficult to make predictions in matters of that nature.

[Second announcer] But why was Chernobyl chosen as the venue for the trial?

[First announcer] According to the rules, criminal cases are heard in the administrative areas where the crimes were committed. Besides, this is a unique case. It may very well be that the court will have to inspect the scene and hear the testimonies of specialists and scientists working locally. In general, a case of that nature cannot in my view, Nikolay Arestovich said, be heard away from the scene of the crime. I support, he added, Raymond Brize's decision to hold the trial in Chernobyl.

[Second announcer] Soviet scientists and experts have on many occasions given assurances that the situation in the Chernobyl area is back to normal, that the trial is taking place in Chernobyl provides an indirect confirmation of that. Had the situation there not been normal, the local authorities would never have put at risk the many people involved, as well as Soviet and foreign newsmen covering the trial.

EDITORIALS SURVEY PLENUM, SUPREME SOVIET SESSION

PRAVDA Summary

PM031030 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Accelerating and Deepening Restructuring"]

[Text] A routine CPSU Central Committee Plenum was held a few days ago. The plenum discussed the question "on the party's tasks in the radical restructuring of economic management." The report on this question was delivered by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The report summarized some of the political results of restructuring and determined the priority tasks for the present stage. There was a comprehensive and thorough examination of its most important element — the radical reform of economic management and the necessity, essence, and social aspects of it.

The consistent implementation of the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and 27th CPSU Congress line of accelerating socioeconomic development and of restructuring is having a profound influence on all spheres of Soviet society's life. The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum was a major landmark on the path toward Soviet society's democratization. The Soviet people fully supported and have been increasingly actively joining in the process of restructuring and acceleration and advocate the immediate solution of the urgent problems.

People's changing attitude toward labor and toward the fulfillment of their production commitments is the most important element in the political evaluation of the processes taking place within the economy. This is largely to do with the practical support which working people are giving to the party line as well as with the transfer by many economic sectors to new economic management methods (full economic accountability and self-financing) and progressive forms of labor organization, above all the collective contract.

All this has been a certain effect on economic results.

The labor productivity growth rate has increased. The average for the past 2 years exceeded the average annual indicators for the 11th 5-Year Plan in industry and construction by 30 percent, in agriculture by 100 percent, and in rail transport by 200 percent. [paragraph continues]

The average growth rate for industrial production was 4.4 percent in 1985-1986 and in agriculture 3 percent.

Almost R40 billion are being allocated above the approved 5-year plan figure for strengthening the material base of the social sphere. This year the growth rate of capital investments in the development of the social sphere will be three times higher than for the national economy as a whole.

Economic activity in the countryside has picked up. In comparison with 1984, the production of grain has increased by 37 million tonnes, meat (in slaughtered weight) is up by 1 million tonnes, milk production has risen by 4.3 billion [tonnes].

At the same time the revolutionary transformations are being implemented in an atmosphere of contradictions and struggle against routine, sluggishness, and bureaucracy.

The report by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee notes that the paramount contradiction now is that between the demands of renewal, creativity, and creative initiative on the one hand and conservatism, inertia, and selfish interests on the other.

The most effective way of overcoming this contradiction is by the broad development of democracy. Management by command and administration, forms of management which slow down our movement, must be countered by democratic forms, the only ones capable of imparting powerful acceleration to society.

Much remains to be done to harmonize the interests of society, the collective, and the individual and to overcome the conflicts in labor and distributive relations, the tendency toward wage leveling, and parasitism.

Despite the complexities, difficulties, and obstacles, restructuring has won an ideological and moral victory and its impact has been wide-ranging and deep. The working class is the vanguard of restructuring, and this is of decisive significance for ensuring its success. Competition in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution is gaining momentum.

However, despite the tremendous successes, many places have not yet really been affected by restructuring. An alarming trend has surfaced — namely, that a number of party organizations are failing to keep pace with the mood developing within society. There have been occasions when important decisions on major questions of the country's development have been slowly and incompletely implemented. The restructuring of central departments is not taking place as quickly as life demands. Little practical work is being done to satisfy people's most basic needs.

This explains the urgent need to increase the responsibility of Communists and leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs for the situation, for ensuring the real solution of the urgent problems, and for the course of restructuring.

Unquestionably, restructuring is a long-term policy. The task of raising Soviet society to new heights cannot be achieved at a stroke. However, it is equally unquestionable that sluggishness in restructuring is intolerable and it is organically connected with the general strategy toward acceleration. Accelerating restructuring (there is no time to lose) and restructuring for the sake of acceleration — that is the real dialectic of our day.

Paramount importance is now attached to those tasks whose solution would considerably improve people's working, living, and everyday conditions and improve the moral and spiritual atmosphere. This is a question first and foremost of resolving the problem of food and housing, consumer goods and the services sphere, and the situation in the consumer market. It also means strengthening discipline and order and combatting drunkenness and alcoholism.

Democracy is becoming broader and deeper. The process of openness, criticism, and self-criticism in the country is taking place on a sound basis, which plays a tremendous role in uniting all the forces in society on the principles of restructuring and in carrying out progressive transformations in the people's interests. However, the course of developing openness and democracy is not easy, in some places it is even painful; this leads to difficult situations. Attempts have been made to appear to be combatting one half-truth and the ambitions of one group while actually seeking to replace them with a different half-truth and the ambitions of another group. We come across this in the mass media, literature, art, and scientific circles.

All party, soviet, and economic organs and leading cadres, both centrally and locally, must learn how to work in conditions of expanding democracy. This lesson cannot be postponed to some future date. It must be tackled with determination right now. Our people support democracy, both in political and practical terms.

The most important element of restructuring is the reform of economic management.

In the late seventies and early eighties, the economic growth rate had fallen to a level which effectively marked the onset of economic stagnation. The financial strain within the national economy grew. The economic incentives designed to improve quality and efficiency ceased functioning and the ground was prepared for price rises and a number of other negative processes (the neglect of machine building, low quality output, and shortages). Most serious of all, we began to lag behind in scientific and technical development.

The tumultuous progress of the scientific and technical revolution, the rapidly increasing complexity of the national economy, the need to switch the emphasis from extensive methods to intensive ones and from quantity to quality, the increasing influence of social conditions, and the sharp rise in the role of the human factor has made the restructuring and radical reform of the economic mechanism and the creation of an integrated, effective, and flexible economic management system items of ever increasing urgency.

On the level of principle, the sense and thrust of the reform are clear: more socialism, more democracy.

This means that the working man must be ensured the status of true master in the workplace, the collective, and society because it is the interest of working people as the masters of production which is the strongest interest and the most powerful driving force behind acceleration. This means making active use of the diverse forms of cooperation and individual labor activity as well as state property.

The dialectical unity of centralized planned leadership of the national economy and the independence of its individual links and planning and commodity-money relations; the reorientation of economic growth from interim to end, socially significant results, the satisfaction of society's needs, and man's all-around development; the transformation of scientific and technical progress into the main factor of economic growth; and the creation of a reliable cost-cutting mechanism -- these are the components of an integrated economic management system.

To create this system, it is necessary to switch from primarily administrative to primarily economic methods of leadership at all levels, to the broad democratization of management, and the all-around activation of the human factor.

Enterprises and associations -- the main link of the economy -- are the point of departure for the restructuring of management. The priority task is to create the most favorable economic environment for it, consolidate its rights, and at the same time increase its responsibility and on that basis introduce fundamental changes in the activity of all superior links of economic management.

The main thing is to give enterprises extensive rights and to ensure their real independence on the basis of full economic accountability.

It is the enterprise itself which formulates the output and sales plan on the basis of real social needs. It must be based on direct orders from state organizations, economically accountable enterprises, and trade organizations for specific output of the appropriate quantity and quality. Enterprises must be given the kind of conditions in which there can be economic competition between them to achieve the optimum satisfaction of customers' needs.

Enterprises and associations are switching to self-capitalization and self-financing (a matter of fundamental importance). The most important role here is assigned to stable long-term normatives -- payments to the state budget, interest rates for credit, and the formation of funds for labor remuneration and the satisfaction of social needs.

The transfer of labor collectives to self-management, in which they independently resolve all questions relating to the internal organization of production up to and including the election of leaders, is a powerful incentive for working people's initiative and independence.

In conditions of the full economic accountability, self-financing, and self-management of enterprises and organizations, the centralized leadership of the economy must also be qualitatively renewed.

The statewide plan is to determine the basic priorities and aims of the country's socioeconomic development, the direction of structural and investment policy, scientific and technical progress, and the tasks of increasing scientific, educational, and cultural potential and maintaining the defense capability.

The most important component of the restructuring of economic management is the radical restructuring of pricing and prices -- wholesale, purchase, and retail prices and tariffs. It is important to ensure the greatest possible correspondence between prices and socially necessary expenditure.

The reform of wholesale prices should improve the situation in the national economy and create the optimum conditions for increasing production efficiency, saving resources, and improving output quality. As for retail prices, the change there should lead to a rise in the living standards of certain categories of working people and the fuller attainment of social justice.

Closely linked with the pricing reform is the restructuring of the economy's material and technical supply system. The main thrust of it is to achieve a resolute switch to wholesale trade in the means of production both via direct ties between suppliers and customers and via economically accountable wholesale bases. State organs would be assigned the function of regulating and monitoring it.

The transformation of the economic mechanism cannot be achieved without a radical financial and credit reform. It must aim to transfer budget relations with enterprises to a normative basis, eliminate all possibility of obtaining income before the final sale of goods, and ensure the all-around financial improvement of the national economy.

The creation of an integrated economic management system presupposes the restructuring of organizational structures and the work of management organs.

This applies primarily to the basic link of the economy -- enterprises and associations. It is important to ensure that their formation meets the needs of rational specialization and production sharing and creates the conditions for using the most progressive equipment and technology. It is necessary to combine all the links of production in a single organization -- from applied research to batch production and technical servicing. In so doing, of course, it is necessary to consider the manageability factor. It is also necessary to avoid creating a monopoly situation for associations in the production of given types of output.

As for sector management and above all the management of ministries, the latter must really become the scientific, technical, and economic planning staffs of sectors, be accountable to the country for satisfying the national economy's needs for the output produced by the sector, work actively to develop and improve the structure of the sector and deepen specialization and production sharing, and formulate economic normatives, levers, and incentives for subordinate enterprises.

Intrasector problems are the most complex. To resolve them, permanent systems for the management of national economic complexes and groups of interrelated sectors have been created under the USSR Council of Ministers -- the State Agro-Industrial Committee, Gosstroy, the Bureau for Machine Building, the Bureau for the Fuel and Energy Complex, the Foreign Economic Commission, and the Bureau for Social Development.

Government permanent organs should be consistently turned into viable organizations answerable for the development of their complexes and the solution of problems within sectors.

Territorial management needs major improvement. In this respect, it is clearly expedient to create within soviet oblispolkoms and krayispolkoms production and economic administrations for the comprehensive elaboration of regional development plans and the coordination of all economic work on a given territory.

M.S. Gorbachev dwelt especially on the social aspects of the restructuring of economic management. Passivity, the residual principle, and parasitism are particularly unacceptable when resolving social and human problems.

Restructuring is impossible without efficient organization and party political backup.

The plenum ratified the "Basic Provisions for the Radical Restructuring of Economic Management" submitted by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. These provisions contain principles and concrete guidelines on the creation of an integrated management system. They are the party's directive for future work in this sphere.

The draft USSR Law on State Enterprise (Association) was approved.

Draft resolutions affecting the restructuring of the activity of central, republic, and local management organs and the planning system and other normative acts were generally approved. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the USSR Council of Ministers have been instructed to adopt them, taking account of the discussion at the Central Committee plenum.

The plenum approved the CPSU Central Committee Politburo's political and practical activity in implementing the course of restructuring and instructed that the party congress' strategic line be steadfastly implemented in the interests of the people, of strengthening socialism, and deepening socialist democracy. It expressed confidence that all party organizations, all Communists, and all cadres will set about resolving our society's urgent economic problems with redoubled energy.

The plenum stressed that the restructuring of economic management and the economic mechanism as a whole is now the key issue determining the success of the entire acceleration strategy. Its implementation is the most important party and nationwide cause, an inalienable component of the process of renewing the country's whole life, and the direct continuation of the cause of the October Revolution.

Party organizations must be the vanguard of the transformations taking place. Union republic communist party central committees and party kraykoms, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms must consistently pursue a line of improving the style of work and asserting political leadership methods relying on primary party organizations, labor collectives, and social organizations, assess the situation truthfully and in a principled way, and teach cadres how to act in the new way. Concrete measures must be taken to increase responsibility and principledness in the work of the party organizations of central economic organs, ministries, departments, enterprises, and associations.

The CPSU Central Committee Plenum resolved to convene the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses in Moscow on 28 June next year. It will discuss the following questions: progress in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, the main results of the first half of the 12th 5-Year Plan and party organizations' tasks in deepening the restructuring process, and measures to further democratize the life of the party and society. The CPSU Central Committee urged party committees to prepare for the All-Union CPSU Conference at a high ideological, political, and organizational level in an atmosphere of the further cohesion of party ranks, strengthening of the unity of the party and the people, and deepening of the process of the revolutionary social transformations taking place in the country.

The plenum was immediately followed by the 7th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation. Deputy N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, delivered a report entitled "On Restructuring the Management of the National Economy at the Present Stage of the Country's Economic Development."

The session adopted the Law on State Enterprise (Association) and other acts relating to the restructuring of the management of the country's national economy.

The USSR Law on Nationwide Discussion of Important Questions of State Life and the USSR Law on the Procedure of Appeal to the Courts Against Illegal Actions by Officials Encroaching on Citizens' Rights were also adopted. These two laws are important landmarks on the path of the further development, expansion, and deepening of our Soviet socialist democracy.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session adopted principled decisions of tremendous importance for the future of our country and world socialism. The task now is to ensure that Communists and the broadest strata of the Soviet people understand these decisions; to ensure these decisions serve as guidance for action and are unconditionally fulfilled; and to ensure that each of us, Communists and non-party people alike, when thinking about the future and the long term, also concentrate on the solution of present tasks. The tasks of the 5-year plan and of this year — its second, very difficult and important year.

IZVESTIYA 2 July

PM021219 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Asserting the Ideas of Restructuring Through Action!"]

[Text] There has recently been a lively discussion in our society linked with the most urgent questions of economic life. The nationwide discussion of the draft USSR Law on State Enterprise (Association) and the preparations for the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum prompted millions of people to express their thoughtful, interested, and critical opinion about the main avenues of restructuring the national economy, to realistically assess the existing difficulties and contradictions, and to propose their own ways of overcoming them. We have once again seen for ourselves that the first steps of restructuring revealed many acute questions and marked out many "score points" in our economy.

The work of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session was devoted to the resolution of these problems, the creation of harmonious, integral, and comprehensive system for restructuring the running of the economy, and to making qualitative changes in the structure of the economic mechanism that open up new opportunities for utilizing the advantages of the socialist system.

The report "On the Party's Tasks in Radically Restructuring Economic Management" was delivered by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The Central Committee plenum adopted an extensive resolution on the question under discussion. [paragraph continues]

The "Basic Provisions for the Radical Restructuring of Economic Management" presented by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo were ratified. The plenum approved the draft USSR Law on State Enterprise (Association), which was drawn up taking the nationwide discussion into account, and instructed the USSR Council of Ministers to submit it for examination by the USSR Supreme Soviet. The Central Committee plenum adopted a decision to convene the 19th CPSU All-Union Conference in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses in Moscow on 28 June 1988.

The 7th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th Convocation, was held. The report "On the Restructuring of the Management of the National Economy at the Present Stage of the Country's Economic Development" was delivered by N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The session adopted the USSR Law on State Enterprise (Associations), and examined other important state questions.

The materials of the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session are now being studied with great attention by people both in our country and abroad. They contain a profound theoretical development of the fundamental aspects of restructuring -- primarily its economic aspects -- based, as Lenin put it, on the precise depiction of "all the contradictions which exist in life." A program of further practical actions aimed at accelerating the country's socioeconomic development in every possible way has been formulated on this basis.

The actual ideological and political situation that has emerged in society since the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum is complex and contradictory. Our society's life is typified by growth in the civic activeness of all strata of the population and by the increased level of initiative in posing new questions and overcoming accumulated inertia.

Now it is already quite obvious that restructuring is irreversible. The renewal process is becoming more and more specific in form, encompassing new sections of social life, and subsuming a wider and wider range of problems. First and foremost it is aimed at removing the contradictions which form the main links in the braking mechanism. Social development will thereby be given a powerful and effective boost of acceleration.

The incipient returning of the economic mechanism has already led to the assertion in our life of new methods of economic activity. A number of sectors have been switched to complete economic accountability [khozyaystvenny raschet] and self-financing. At the same time progressive forms of labor organization at grassroots level -- such as the collective and family contract, for instance -- have been developed. Substantial changes have been made to structural and investment policy. Major targeted programs have been worked out. The main avenues of scientific and technical progress have been defined.

People's changing attitudes to work and to the fulfillment of their production duties are among the first -- and exceptionally important -- results of economic restructuring.

All this has had a definite effect on economic results. In particular, this can be judged from the labor productivity growth rate indicator. On average over the last 2 years, labor productivity growth rates have exceeded the average annual indicators of the 11th 5-Year Plan by 30 percent in industry and construction, by 100 percent in agriculture, and by 200 percent in rail transport.

There are only the first results, which reflect the people's growing labor and social activeness. Soviet people are more and more clearly aware of the need for change and for the consistent implementation of the line of renewal. At the same time the realization has deepened that restructuring is a complex and contradictory process.

The Central Committee plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session thoroughly revealed the roots which sustain the attempts of certain people and groups -- voluntarily or involuntarily -- to freeze restructuring. These roots are conservatism, inertia, bureaucratism, parasitism, and habitual use of the command and administrative style of management. That is why there are still "preserves" of inertia and lack of initiative in certain places in our national economy. We have no right to close our eyes to these realities either.

Particularly in those matters which concern the people's paramount interests. That is -- providing Soviet people with food, housing, consumer goods, and services. Considerable positive experience has already been accumulated in all these spheres. But there are probably even more examples of mismanagement and wasteful attitudes to property.

Over the last few years, parasitism has developed in our country in the solution of food questions. But is it only food questions? There has been no radical breakthrough in housing construction. Many economic managers also continues to operate according to old, simplistic plans in the production of consumer goods. In many places the work to strengthen order and discipline has been weakened.

On the basis of a profound and critical analysis of the state of our economy and its development trends the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session came to the principled conclusion that there have not yet been any radical or cardinal improvements in this area. The braking mechanism has still not been broken or replaced by the acceleration mechanism.

In principle the purport and thrust of the forthcoming radical reform are obvious. As was stressed at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, they are expressed in the formula: more socialism, more democracy. The essence of this formula is that the restructuring of the Soviet economy by no means signifies a departure from the foundations of socialism or, at any rate, some kind of weakening of them. On the contrary, the economic reform is designed to strengthen socialism, remove the difficulties and obstacles in the way of its development, and reveal its enormous potential -- in the interests of society and Soviet people. We will have to bring all the advantages of our system into play and impart the most modern forms to it.

The main question in socialist theory and practice is how to create on a socialist basis incentives for economic, scientific, technical, and social progress that are more powerful than under capitalism, and how to most effectively meld planned leadership with the interests of the individual and the collective. Our party and state see the key to the creation of effective incentives for improving production efficiency in making working people genuine masters at their workplaces, in collectives, and in society as a whole. It is theoretically and practically indisputable that working people's interest as masters of production is the strongest interest and most powerful motive force in the acceleration of socioeconomic, scientific, and technical progress.

People and their real interests and motives, the CPSU Central Committee plenum noted, are at the center of our economic policy and economic practice. [paragraph continues]

Creating a powerful system of motives and incentives to prompt all workers to fully reveal their abilities, work fruitfully, and make most effective use of production resources is the call of the time.

The democratization of the economy is indissolubly linked with the active utilization of various forms of production sharing and individual labor activity along with state ownership. These economic forms by no means signify the resurrection of private economic practice but will help to remove the "black" economy, eliminate various abuses, and more fully satisfy the population's urgent needs.

We must move from primarily administrative to primarily economic leadership methods. That, in essence, is the purport of restructuring in the economic sphere. Naturally, the resolution of this global task concerns all stages of the running of the national economy, all its links, and the entire system of economic relations: the sharp expansion of the extent of the autonomy [samostoyatel'nost'] of associations and enterprises, and their transition to complete economic accountability and self-financing; the radical restructuring of the centralized leadership of the economy and the improvement of its qualitative standard; the cardinal reform of planning, price formation, and the financial and credit mechanism; the transition to wholesale trade in means of production; the restructuring of the management of scientific and technical progress, foreign economic ties, labor, and social processes; the creation of new organizational structures that ensure the deepening of specialization and the improvement of reliable production sharing contacts; the direct inclusion of science in production, and -- on that basis -- a breakthrough to world standards of quality; the transition from an excessively centralized command system of management to a democratic system, the development of self-management....

All these fundamental avenues of the economic reform were comprehensively analyzed at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session. And, quite naturally, particular attention was devoted to the main component of the economy -- enterprises and associations. For it is there that all the products and services needed by the people are created and scientific and technical thinking is implemented. It is there that economic and social relations actually take shape and people's interests -- personal, collective, and social interests -- are intertwined. Therefore, it is this that is the starting point for economic restructuring.

The new economic mechanism is designed to be a powerful lever and a stimulating force for good, enterprising work first and foremost in labor collectives. Its introduction should give enterprises extensive rights and ensure their real independence on the basis of complete economic accountability. Labor collectives' transition to self-management -- under which they independently resolve all questions of the internal organization of production, right up to the election of leaders -- will be an effective incentive for people to show their initiative and enterprise.

The fundamental restructuring of economic management is designed to unite and harmonize all our society's multifarious interests, not only the interests of enterprises and sectors, but also those of republics, krais, oblasts, cities, and rayons -- territorial interests. Local soviets' activities must be primarily focused on comprehensively developing regions and making rational use of local resources -- manpower resources, natural resources, and production resources. Of course, the social sphere requires special attention from the soviets.

The resolution of the food problem, the construction of and provision of services for housing, and the production of consumer goods all require great attention and great concern locally. Local soviets must also play a more active role in developing cooperative and individual labor activity.

Great and supremely responsible work lies ahead. New problems and many difficulties lie ahead. We have no guarantee against making mistakes. Yet the greatest mistake, as the Central Committee plenum stressed, is the fear of making a mistake. Everything must be done to ensure that the transitional, complex period in the restructuring of the national economy is not delayed, and that we act resolutely, thoughtfully, and effectively during this crucial period.

In restructuring the economic mechanism and in radically reforming economic management we can in no way lose sight of the resolution of the tasks of the present. They are made particularly complex by the fact that for a certain period both new and old management methods will operate simultaneously. Yet the targets outlined in the current 5-year plan must be achieved.

Success in resolving all the current and long-term tasks and the success of restructuring will ultimately depend on all of us. We must work honestly and conscientiously. We must work enterprisingly and with initiative. We must see the ultimate national economic result of our work and gear our work to that result every day and every hour. We must make full use of the opportunities presented by the time for showing independence and initiative. That, above all, is the specific contribution to restructuring that everybody must make.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session have been greeted with profound satisfaction by Soviet people. The documents that were adopted conclude the development of an integral restructuring concept, whose idea was put forward in April 1985 and later comprehensively substantiated and developed in the materials of the 27th CPSU Congress and the Central Committee January Plenum. The course of acceleration and restructuring has a firm basis in theory. The political importance of the documents that have now been adopted lies in the fact that they translate the ideas of restructuring into practice. In a decisive social sphere — the economic sphere, which concerns the very foundations of the people's life.

We are all well aware that the restructuring of the running of the economy and the economic mechanism as a whole is now a central task that determines the success of the strategy of acceleration. Its implementation is a most important task for the whole party and people, an inalienable component of the process of renewing the country's entire life, and the direct continuation of the revolutionary cause of October.

AGANBEGYAN CITED ON 'EMOTIONALLY CHARGED' PLENUM

PM011351 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 28 Jun 87 p 10

[Harald Hamrin dispatch: "Reforming Soviet Economist: Thousands of Enterprises Should Be Closed"]

[Text] Moscow — Feelings ran high and criticism met with counter criticism at Thursday's and Friday's meeting of the CPSU Central Committee in Moscow.

This frank admission of violent disagreements came from one of the men who took part in the Central Committee meeting -- economics Professor Abel Aganbegyan.

At a news conference after the meeting late Friday evening, he gave the assembled press corps a unique insight into this meeting, which was intended to be the launching pad for the new and concrete phase of "perestroika" -- the Soviet policy of reform.

Asked whether the meeting had seen a conflict between differing views about how the wheels of the Soviet economy are to be made to turn in the future, Aganbegyan gave his most frank answer:

"If you mean a conflict like those one can see in the Japanese parliament, then everything passed off very calmly," he said. "But some very emotionally charged speeches were made, people expressed their criticism of the proposed legislation (on state enterprises) and made it clear on which points they dissociated themselves from it. Everyone really voiced their innermost views."

In response to a question about whether it would be correct to describe the criticism as an expression of opposition, he added that "complete agreement exists only in a churchyard."

In his closing speech, which was published in Saturday's Soviet newspapers, Gorbachev too admitted that the debate during the Central Committee meeting had at times been heated. The discussion had been "open and businesslike," he declared, in a phrase which usually points to sharp differences of opinion.

What finally emerged from this meeting was a compromise, but a compromise which even Aganbegyan -- well known as one of the most pro-reform economists in Gorbachev's most immediate circle -- thinks he will be able to live with.

"This meeting was a turning point in the whole of our work since it was about the restructuring of our economy," he said. "We decided to adopt the restructuring of our economy," he said. "We decided to adopt really revolutionary measures."

Aganbegyan admitted that not all the documents adopted by the Central Committee were detailed and concrete enough to satisfy him. But "the direction in which we have to travel" is there, he said, and that is the important thing.

"Many proposals in the draft legislation (on state enterprises) are contradictory," he explained. "I cannot claim that I agree with everything. But we either had to adopt this proposal or we would have to continue to discuss everything for a further 6 months."

The phase of actual implementation is now beginning, first with the Supreme Soviet's formal adoption on Monday of the new legislation, which will come into force at the end of the year. Before the end of the year, it is also intended that a whole package of eleven complementary ordinances will be approved. These ordinances will affect the highest planning authority, Gosplan, and Gossnab, the authority which distributes raw materials to individual enterprises. Other new regulations will cover the work of the ministries which control the different branches of industry, credit and finance policy, and the pricing system.

It will not be possible, Aganbegyan hinted, to put all this into full effect on 1 January; the ship of the Soviet economy is far too big and slow to turn for that. A transitional period of 2 to 3 years must be expected -- and this is one of the concessions to the opponents of a policy of rapid economic reform. But with the launch of the 13th 5-year plan, in 1991 all the pieces of the puzzle will be in their right places.

Here are some of the most important of these pieces of the puzzle:

The state enterprises, of which there are currently approximately 48,000, will continue to enter into contracts with the state -- thus, there will be not overall freedom for them to trade with whom they wish. But the proportion of state contracts will fall in a first phase from the present 100 percent to 50-60 percent and, according to Aganbegyan, the aim is to come down to 30 percent by 1990. Other contracts will be drawn up between individual enterprises on terms in which the state will not interfere.

In the future, enterprises will work according to the principles of self-financing and profitability. This will lead to a number of bankruptcies. According to Aganbegyan, "it would be most suitable to close many thousands of them," but this will probably not happen in the short term. To begin with possible bankruptcies will be "symbolic in nature" and will affect, for example, old mining enterprises, which have long since ceased to play a role in the Soviet national economy.

The question of consumer prices is, it would seem, the most sensitive of all. With a system of subsidies which today costs the national budget the equivalent of 730 billion kronor annually reforms are needed -- a kilo of meat is, for example, subsidized by 30 kronor and a liter of milk by 3 kronor, Aganbegyan revealed. This is an "absolutely unsatisfactory situation," he said.

The Soviet Union does not want price riots like those experienced by Poland and other countries in Eastern Europe. But Aganbegyan did not try to hide the fact that successive adjustments to rents and the price of foodstuffs, for example, will be necessary.

DOLGIKH, VEDERNIKOV ATTEND FLEET WORKERS' MEETING

PM071101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Ceremonial Meeting"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting was held in Moscow 3 July to mark Maritime and River Fleet Workers' Day. The report was delivered by USSR Minister of the Maritime Fleet Yu.M. Volmer. The participants in the meeting noted that maritime and river fleet workers have switched to full economic accountability. Integrated production complexes have been commissioned at river ports for the extraction and unloading of minerals and construction cargoes.

Present at the ceremonial meeting were V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; G.G. Vedernikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.S. Pasternak, chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; and representatives of the capital's party and public organizations.

MEDIA REPORTS JULY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

1-4 July

LD050200 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 1-4 July GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

1 July

Ukraine's farmers have in the past week made over 1.25 million tonnes of hay and laid in more than 2 million tonnes of haylage -- unprecedented rates of work. In the south, on irrigated lands they have started a second mowing. (0400)

Farmers in Uzbekistan have threshed nearly 500,000 tonnes of grain, which is nearly twice as much as last year. Harvesting is speeding up in the biggest bread growing areas of the republics, the Kashkadarya, Dzhizak and Samarkand Oblasts. The harvesting is coming to an end in the Fergana Valley. (0600).

Farms in eight union republics are currently carrying out harvesting of grain crops. Fodder procurement is underway everywhere to catch up with the backlog caused by protracted spring. The backlog has been considerably reduced now with 16.5 million tonnes of hay and more than 23 million tonnes of haylage having already been laid in. (1100)

Bread grain harvest has started in north Tajikistan (1100)

Sown and natural grasses are being cut from an area of 1.5 million hectares every 24 hours. So far, grass has been harvested from an area of 26 million hectares. This is less than last year because of the protracted spring, which has, in turn, led to late ripening. More haylage has been produced than hay because farms made use of their greater level of independence this year and decided that that was the best thing to do in view of the rainy weather and the need to maintain quality during storage. More high-protein feed, such as rape, clover, and alfalfa, has been produced. In Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, about one-third of the planned fodder yield has been laid-in for storage, and the second cut is being carried out there. The conditions are now good, since the soil contains a great deal of moisture, which determines the quality of fodder. Storage is another matter. A lot of the dried hay will be left out in the open. Farms are now working on the problem. The aim is to make sure that all fodder is stored under a roof by the end of the 5-year plan period. (1500)

2 July

Harvesting of winter barley has begun in Izmailskiy Rayon in Odessa Oblast. Such early harvesting, especially in this year's weather conditions, is explained by the fact that a super-early variety of winter barley called (Lokus) and produced by Krasnodar seed breeders, was used. (1330)

Harvesting has begun in Kazakhstan's southern oblasts. Many farms in Chimkent and Dzhambul Oblast have started to harvest barley and wheat. The combines are coming out in Alma-Ata Oblast, ready to begin operations.

The first threshing has shown that, in the southern part of the republic in general, the grain is quite good. However, not all the combines are ready for the harvest in Chimkent Oblast, which is slowing down the threshing pace. (1800)

3 July

Grasses have been mown and gathered in from 10 million hectares in Kazakhstan, almost one-third of the area assigned for haymaking in the republic. Where winter fodder has to be provided for livestock, 5 million tonnes of hay have already been gathered and 2 million tonnes of silage have been made. In Chimkent and Dzhambul Oblasts, the annual silage-making plan has already been overfulfilled. (2004)

4 July

Uzbekistan: 3 million tonnes of fodder have been harvested to date. Two harvests of alfalfa have taken place. Overall, one and a half times more fodder has been laid in this year than last year. However, the farmers of the Karakalpak ASSR and of Khorezm Oblast have let the side down -- they have fulfilled the plan by less than one-third. (0204)

Fodder procurement continues in Altay Kray, with fairly good crop of perennial grasses, and crops from waterless valley meadows. In the east of the kray, a number of rayons are procuring fodders below their capabilities. Energetic measures to improve the hay-making are being taken by the kray agro-industrial committee. (0800)

5-8 July

LD090436 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 5-8 July GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

5 July

Novosibirsk Oblast: In the first 6 months of this year the farms of this oblast have given the state more than 100,000 tonnes of livestock for meat, more than 530,000 tonnes of milk, and 343 million eggs.

Wheat sales to the state have been fulfilled in Tajikistan's Kurgan-Tyube Oblast. More than 300,000 tonnes of grain have arrived at collection points, exceeding the year's program. Ploughing has begun on fields already harvested. (0100)

Today the last combine harvester leaves the fields of Andizhan Oblast in Uzbekistan. The harvesting of winter crops in Fergana, Namanga, and Syrdarinskaya Oblasts is going on faster than last year, but in Tashkent Oblast the harvesting has been delayed and by today only one-half had been mown. An average grain yield of nearly 33 quintals per hectare has been produced in Andizhan Oblast. This is the best result in Uzbekistan. (1100)

Haymaking has started in the Tyan-Shan uplands in Kirgizia. Heavy rainfall earlier in the year has produced a good crop even at a height of 2 km above sea level. It is expected that over 100 tonnes of good fodder will be collected from the hillsides. (1100)

Three-quarters of the area allocated for haymaking has now been cut in Belorussia. Many farms have completed this work. (1300)

The harvest has begun in North Ossetia, with widescale threshing of barley by farms in the valleys of Terek. New Don-1500 combine harvesters are being used here for the first time. (1400)

Harvesting of grain crops has begun in Stavropol Kray. There are 1.9 million hectares to be cut. (Moscow TV 1430)

Machine operators in Moldavia have begun the harvest of cereal crops. In the southern regions of the republic the mass harvest of barley and peas is underway. (2000)

6 July

Fodder procurement is continuing in the Mari Non-Chernozem Zone. By today 115,000 tonnes of hay have been laid in. This is 54 percent of the plan. (0600)

Alma-Ata Oblast farms today began selective grain harvesting. Barley is being cut in the Pribalkhashkaya Valley. Three oblasts in South Kazakhstan have begun barley and wheat harvesting. Farms in north Kazakhstan are also preparing for the grain harvest. (1100)

7 July

In the mid-Urals the laying in of fodder is proceeding amid drought. The harvests are two and three times lower than usual. (0200)

8 July

Rain which fell yesterday slowed the harvest in Krasnodar Kray, exceeding the norm for the whole month in certain rayons. According to the kray agro-industrial committee, winter barley has been brought in from over 150,000 hectares and threshed from approximately one-half of that area. Newly harvested grain has reached over 300,000 tonnes so far. (0204)

TASS REPORTS 10 JULY LAUNCH OF COSMOS-1867

LD110842 Moscow TASS in English 0831 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 11 TASS -- The Soviet Union launched an artificial satellite, Cosmos-1867, next in the series, on July 10, 1987.

The satellite has onboard scientific instruments designed to continue space exploration.

The satellite was put on orbit with the following parameters:

- Initial period of revolution -- 100.8 minutes,
- Maximum distance from the earth's surface (apogee) -- 813 kilometers,
- Minimum distance from the earth's surface (perigee) -- 797 kilometers,
- The orbit's inclination -- 65 degrees.

Apart from the scientific equipment, the satellite carries:

- A radiosystem for precise measurement of the orbit's elements,
- A radioelectric system to transmit to earth data on the operation of devices and scientific equipment.

The equipment installed in the satellite operates normally.

The coordinating and computer centre processes the incoming information.